

2025 Legislative Summary

ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Fifty-Seventh Legislature, First Regular Session
Warren Petersen, President



CONVENED: January 13, 2025
ADJOURNED SINE DIE: June 27, 2025
GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE: September 26, 2025

Arizona Senate Research Staff
Senate Building
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
www.azleg.gov

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Arizona State Senate

October 24, 2025

Dear Reader:

The 2025 Legislative Summary, commonly referred to as the Spiel, was prepared by the Senate Research Staff under the direction of Warren Petersen, Arizona Senate President.

The Senate Research Staff is a nonpartisan staff that has provided professional analysis services to the Arizona State Senate for over 45 years. The staff consists of full-time legislative committee research analysts, support staff and session-only interns from the state's universities.

The Spiel presents an overview of all legislation approved by the Legislature during the Fifty-Seventh Legislature, First Regular Session (2025). Additional bill information can be obtained from the Arizona Legislature's website: www.azleg.gov.

To prepare this document, the Senate Research Staff relies on many individuals whose assistance is integral to the process and is deeply appreciated. On behalf of the Senate Research Staff, we sincerely thank everyone who participated in producing this year's Spiel.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Liam Maher".

Liam Maher
Senate Research Staff
Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Molly Graver".

Molly Graver
Senate Research Staff
Deputy Director

Senate Research – Committee Staff

Administration

Liam Maher – Research Staff Director

Molly Graver – Deputy Director

Shelley Ponce – Administrative Assistant

Cati Iben – Administrative Assistant

Research Analysts

Liam Maher – Appropriations Committee

Mason Holler – Education Committee

Anna Nguyen – Federalism and Government Committees

Molly Graver – Finance Committee

Michael Madden – Health & Human Services Committee

Zack Dean – Judiciary & Elections Committee

Kiyahna Araza – Military Affairs & Border Security and Public Safety Committees

Sawyer Bessler – Natural Resources Committee

Jason Theodorou – Regulatory Affairs & Government Efficiency Committee

Assistant Research Analysts

Nick Gustoff

Kati Pratt

Sam Rosenberg

Kaytie Sherman

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ACTION KEY

E – Emergency

W/O – Without Emergency

V/O – Veto Override

RFEIR – Requirements for Enactment; Initiative or Referendum

W/S – Without Signature

LIVS – Line Item Veto Signed

RFE – Requirements for Enactment

Appropriations Committee

Senator John Kavanagh, Chairperson



Liam Maher, Research Analyst

Jackson Pitts, Intern

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

appropriations; nuclear emergency management fund (S.B. 1009) – Chapter 56 E

An emergency measure effective April 18, 2025, that provides the biennial appropriation and assessment for the Off-Site Nuclear Emergency Response Plan (Plan) which includes a total appropriation of \$2,617,991 and 10.44 full-time equivalent positions (FTEs) in FY 2026 and a total appropriation of \$2,711,339 and 10.44 FTEs in FY 2027 from the Nuclear Emergency Management Fund to: 1) the Department of Emergency and Military Affairs' Division of Emergency Management to administer and enforce the Plan; 2) the Arizona Department of Agriculture for Plan-related programs; and 3) Maricopa County and City of Buckeye departments and agencies that are assigned responsibilities in the Plan.

ROTC cadets; in-state student status (S.B. 1021) – Chapter 57

[SEE THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.](#)

appropriations; named claimants (S.B. 1047) – Chapter 59

Effective April 18, 2025, appropriates \$292,499.17 from the state General Fund and \$95,970.80 from other funds in FY 2025 to various state agencies for the payment of past claims.

FY 2025 – FY 2026 STATE BUDGET PACKAGE

2025-2026; general appropriations act (S.B. 1735) – Chapter 233

Effective June 27, 2025, the FY 2026 budget includes spending in the total amount of \$17.56 billion and a cash balance of \$207 million. The adopted budget includes ongoing and one-time revenues of \$17.77 billion.

The budget includes FY 2026 (unless otherwise stated) one-time additional state General Fund (state GF) spending as follows:

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) – Federal Repayment	15.0
ADOA – Fire Incident Management Grants	2.3
ADOA – Records Management System	2.7
ADOA – Health Interoperability Grants	1.0

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
ADOA – Tribal Healthcare Investment	3.0
ADOA – Erroneous Conviction Fund Deposit	3.0
ADOA – School Facilities Division (SFD) – New Construction Adjustment	(0.4)
ADOA – SFD – Offset FY 2026 New Construction with Existing Funds	(10.0)
ADOA – SFD – Building Renewal Grants – Administrative Costs	0.8
ADOA – SFD – Building Renewal Grants	183.3
Arizona Department of Agriculture (AZDA) – Agriculture and Water Innovation Fund Deposit – Other Fund (OF)	2.0
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) – Formula – FY 2025	12.0
AHCCCS – Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentage (FMAP) Adjustments – FY 2025	140.3
AHCCCS – FMAP Adjustments	(6.0)
AHCCCS – Eligibility Income Verification Data Charge	2.2
AHCCCS – Graduate Medical Education	4.0
AHCCCS – Critical Access Hospitals Supplemental Pool	4.3
AHCCCS – Secure Behavioral Health Facilities Capital Cost – OF	5.0
Arizona Commission on the Arts – Arts Trust Fund Deposit	2.0
Attorney General – Coordinated Re-Entry – OF	10.0
Department of Child Safety (DCS) – Congregate Care – FY 2025	26.8
DCS – Caseworkers – FY 2025	12.3
DCS – Operating – FY 2025	6.9
DCS – Office of Child Welfare Investigations – FY 2025	0.6
DCS – Adoption Services – FY 2025	(4.1)
DCS – Permanent Guardianship – FY 2025	(14.2)
DCS – Kinship Care – FY 2025	(17.1)
DCS – Foster Home Placement – FY 2025	(2.1)
DCS – Extended Foster Care – FY 2025	2.2
DCS – Out-of-Home Support – FY 2025	(10.3)
DCS – In-Home Mitigation – FY 2025	(1.0)
DCS – Comprehensive Health Plan – Expenditure Authority – FY 2025	43.8
DCS – Enhanced FMAP Adjustments – FY 2025	9.0
DCS – IT System Maintenance – Operating Budget	9.8
DCS – Vehicle Replacement	2.6

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
DCS – Extended Foster Care Comprehensive Service Model	6.4
DCS – Group Home Training Resources to Prevent Human Trafficking	0.1
DCS – Congregate Care	19.3
Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) – Applied Research Centers	0.5
ACA – State Rural Development Council	1.2
ACA – Office of Defense Innovation	0.3
ACA – Romania Trade Office	0.1
Community Colleges – Eastern Arizona College	1.0
Community Colleges – Maricopa County Community College District Wrestling Scholarships	0.25
Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR) – Operating Budget – FY 2025	9.1
ADCRR – Inmate Health Care Contracted Services – FY 2025	9.4
ADCRR – Non-Contract Medication – FY 2025	(37.0)
ADCRR – Operating Funding	9.5
Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind – Early Childhood Therapies	0.1
Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) – Move Adult Workforce Diploma Program from Arizona Department of Education (ADE)	2.0
OEO – Move Dual Enrollment Incentive Program from ADE	1.5
Department of Economic Security (DES) – FY 2026 Developmental Disabilities (DD) Backfill	32.3
DES – FMAP Adjustments – FY 2025	70.1
DES – FMAP Adjustments	(8.4)
DES – DD Supplemental	(76.1)
DES – Benefits Services Digital Portal Implementation	1.2
DES – \$120 Summer Food Benefit – FY 2025	1.9
DES – \$120 Summer Food Benefit	0.2
DES – Community-Based Services for DD Higher-Cost Clients	14.8
DES – Eligibility Income Verification Data Charge	1.0
DES – Increased IT Mainframe Operating Costs	4.0
DES – DD Group Home Monitoring Operating Costs	1.2
DES – Adult Protective Services	3.7
DES – Coordinated Homelessness Services	15.5

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
DES – Veteran Homelessness Strategic Plan	0.5
DES – Veteran Homelessness Services	1.5
DES – Area Agency on Aging Housing Assistance	5.0
DES – Area Agency on Aging Funding	2.0
DES – Civil Legal Aid	3.0
DES – Produce Incentive Program	2.0
DES – After School and Summer Childcare Grant Program	3.0
DES – Childcare Assistance Program – Base Funding	7.1
DES – Childcare Assistance Program	37.8
DES – Education Workforce Innovation Initiative	0.5
ADE – Formula – FY 2025	33.6
ADE – Formula – Final Qasimyar Settlement – FY 2025	8.4
ADE – Fund 3rd Year Low Income Weight Increase	37.0
ADE – Fund 3rd Year Additional Assistance Increase	29.0
ADE – 9th Grade On-Track Program	3.4
ADE – Continue FY 2025 School Meals Funding	3.8
ADE – Automated External Defibrillators for Public High School Athletic Events	0.5
ADE – Virtual School Assessments	0.4
ADE – Apache Junction Unified School District Robotics Program	0.2
ADE – ESSER Federal Funds Backfill – FY 2025 – OF	2.0
ADE – Assessment Contract Increase – OF	5.0
ADE – Community College Adult Education Workforce Program	6.0
ADE – Rural School Nurse Access Grant Fund	2.5
ADE – Teacher Retention Study	0.1
ADE – Continuing High School Workforce Training Funding	1.0
Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (DEMA) – Emergency Division – Additional Grant Support – five full-time equivalent positions (FTEs)	0.5
DEMA – Assist Local Law Enforcement Fentanyl Interdiction – OF	3.0
DEMA – Evacuation Protocols Awareness Campaign – OF	0.3
DEMA – Remove Enacted STORM Act Federal Matching Funding	(0.2)
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) – Water Quality Fee Fund Deposit – OF	9.0

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
ADEQ – Iron King Mine/Humboldt Smelter Group – OF	2.0
ADEQ – Offset Funding	(15.0)
Department of Forestry and Fire Management (DFFM) – Fire Expenses Repayment – OF – FY 2025	(11.2)
DFFM – Wildfire Suppression Funding – OF – FY 2025	30.0
DFFM – Northern Arizona Wildland Fire Training Facility – OF	4.0
Arizona Game and Fish Department – Livestock Loss Compensation – OF	0.25
Arizona Department of Gaming (ADG) – Racetrack Capital Projects and Maintenance/Operations Funding	1.0
ADG – Racing Regulation Fund Deposit	1.9
ADG – Racing Purse Enhancement	1.0
Governor – Operating Funding	0.75
Department of Health Services (DHS) – Arizona State Hospital (ASH) – Increase Sexually Violent Persons Funding	1.5
DHS – ASH – Increase Operating Funding	1.8
DHS – ASH – Operating – FY 2025 – OF	3.3
DHS – Nurse Education at Community Colleges	1.5
DHS – Dementia Awareness Campaign	0.75
DHS – Ibogaine Clinical Research Grants	5.0
DHS – Contract Facilitator for Rural Maternal Health Advisory Committee	0.1
DHS – International Medical School Collaboration	0.1
DHS – Clinical Healthcare Training Program	0.1
Arizona Historical Society – Flagstaff Pioneer Museum Re-Opening – four FTEs	1.1
Prescott Historical Society – Territorial Governor Mansion Restoration	0.5
Arizona Department of Homeland Security – Administrative Costs for Federal Cybersecurity Grant	0.1
Judiciary – Supreme Court – Child and Family Representation Program	0.6
Legislature – Office of the Auditor General – Special Audit – 12 FTEs	5.3
Legislature – House of Representatives – Operating Funding	0.75
Legislature – Senate – Operating Funding	0.75
State Natural Resource Conservation Board – Operating Funding	0.1
State Natural Resource Conservation Board – Artificial Groundwater Recharge Facilities	0.25

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
Arizona Board of Nursing – Student Registered Nurse Anesthetist Clinical Rotation Program	0.5
Arizona State Parks Board (ASPB) – Heritage Fund Deposit	1.0
ASPB – State Lake Improvement Fund	1.5
Department of Public Safety (DPS) – Repurpose Unused Border Security Fund	(10.9)
DPS – Local Border Support	5.0
DPS – Vehicle Replacement	8.7
DPS – Civil Air Patrol Maintenance and Operations	0.1
DPS – Recruitment Funding	0.15
DPS – Sex Offender Management Board	0.4
DPS – Yuma County – Family Advocacy Center	0.75
DPS – Antihuman Trafficking Fund Deposit	1.6
DPS – Arizona Counter Terrorism Information Center	1.5
Arizona Department of Revenue – Prop 312 Property Tax Refund Administrative Costs	0.5
Secretary of State (SOS) – CD 7 Special Election – FY 2025	0.5
SOS – CD 7 Special Election	8.0
SOS – Address Confidentiality Program Fund Deposit	0.4
Arizona Office of Tourism – Southern Arizona Sports, Tourism and Film Authority	0.5
Arizona Department of Transportation – Spaying and Neutering Fund Deposit	0.5
State Treasurer – Statewide Transportation Innovation Fund Deposit	2.0
State Treasurer – Advanced Air Mobility Fund Deposit	2.0
State Treasurer – Statewide Infrastructure Trust Fund Deposit	1.0
State Treasurer – Justice of the Peace Salary Funding – FY 2025	0.2
State Treasurer – Veteran Health Innovation Pilot Program	0.15
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Ak-Chin Police Department	0.3
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Arizona City Fire District	0.1
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Bullhead City – Main Water Line Transmission – OF	1.0
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Casa Grande Police Department	0.3
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Casa Grande Fire Department	0.2
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Coolidge Police Department	0.2

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Coolidge Fire Department	0.2
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Eloy Police Department	0.2
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Eloy Fire Department	0.2
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Florence Police Department	0.5
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Florence Fire Department	0.27
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Gila River Police Department	0.2
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Gila River Fire Department	0.2
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – International Dark Sky Discovery Center	3.3
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – La Paz County Sheriff's Office	0.5
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – City of Maricopa Police Department	0.2
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – City of Maricopa Fire Department	0.2
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Maricopa County Attorney – Sexual Assault Investigator Training/Antihuman Trafficking	2.0
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Maricopa County Recorder – Operating Funding	4.1
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Mohave County – Meadview/South Cover Launch Ramp	0.5
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Mohave County – Horizon Six Community Fire Hydrants	0.5
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Mohave County – Search and Rescue Training Costs	0.1
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Mohave County Sheriff's Office	1.0
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Town of Paradise Valley Police Indoor Shooting Range Design	0.1
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Peoria – Parks Capital Improvements	0.3
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Phoenix Police Department – Community Policing	0.1
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Pinal County – Signs to Prohibit Illegal Dumping	0.05
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Pinal County Sheriff's Office	0.4
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Pinal County Veterans Center Funding	0.2
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Pinal County Suicide Prevention Funding	0.3
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Pinal Alliance Reading Program	0.1

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Prescott Valley Police Department	0.45
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Salt River Police Department – Community Policing	0.1
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Scottsdale Adaptive Services Park/Recreational Facility	0.1
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Sierra Vista – Infrastructure Funding	0.1
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Sierra Vista – Spaceport	1.5
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Snowflake Historical House Renovation	0.35
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Sun Corridor Boys and Girls Club	0.2
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Taylor Child Development Center	1.5
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Thunderbird Fire District	0.1
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – City of Winslow	2.5
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Yavapai County – Criminal Informational Intelligence Center	2.0
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Yavapai County Sheriff's Office Satellite Communications Pilot Program	0.5
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Yavapai County Sheriff's Office	0.95
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Yavapai County – Southwest Yavapai County Public Safety Building	1.0
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – City of Yuma – Nonprofit Regional Hospital	3.0
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Yuma County – Excess Waste Tire Cleanup	0.9
State Treasurer – Yuma County Recorder	1.0
Universities – Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) – Washington Center	0.15
Universities – ABOR – Promise Scholarship Program	16.3
Universities – Arizona State University – Decision Theater for Creation of Pinal County Transportation Plan	0.5
Universities – University of Arizona (U of A) – Yuma Center of Excellence for Desert Agriculture	1.35
Universities – U of A – Modular Extractive Metallurgy Facility	0.85
Universities – U of A – Geological Survey	0.5
Universities – U of A – On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program	2.0
Universities – U of A – Medical Mission Scholarship	0.05

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
Universities – U of A – Arizona REACH Program	0.5
Arizona Department of Veterans' Services (ADVS) – State Home for Veterans Trust Fund Deposit – FY 2025	1.0
ADVS – Veterans Mental Health Pilot Program	1.0
Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) – Gila Valley Irrigation District	0.5
WIFA – Kingman Wells Project – OF	3.0
WIFA – Gilbert Wells Project – OF	5.0
WIFA – Water Conservation Grant Fund Deposit	0.25
Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) – Colorado River Litigation – OF	1.0
Four Percent Correctional Officer Stipend	21.4
State Employee Health Insurance Funding	194.9
Risk Management Charge	20.0
Statewide Fleet Charge Adjustments – Operating	5.3
Statewide Fleet Charge Adjustments – Vehicle Replacement	3.3

**Figures are rounded.*

The budget also includes ongoing additional state GF spending as follows:

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
AZDA – State Veterinarian Office – Two FTEs	0.4
AZDA – Livestock Inspectors – Two FTEs	0.4
AZDA – Meat and Poultry Inspection Supervisor – One FTE	0.2
AZDA – Food Safety Scientist – One FTE	0.1
AHCCCS – Formula	41.8
AHCCCS – Caseload Adjustment	(68.3)
AHCCCS – Prescription Drug Rebate Fund Ongoing Shift	(150.0)
AHCCCS – Traditional Healing Services	0.1
AHCCCS – Speech Therapy/Cochlear Implant Coverage	0.3
DCS – Operating Budget	6.9
DCS – Caseworkers	4.6
DCS – Office of Child Welfare Investigation	0.6
DCS – Congregate Care	3.9

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
DCS – Adoption Services	(2.9)
DCS – Permanent Guardianship	(3.5)
DCS – Kinship Care	(11.5)
DCS – Foster Home Placement	(2.0)
DCS – Extended Foster Care	3.9
DCS – Out-of-Home Support – OF	(6.0)
DCS – Preventive Services – Expenditure Authority	7.0
DCS – Comprehensive Health Plan Service – Expenditure Authority	22.2
DCS – In-Home Mitigation – OF	6.0
Community Colleges – Formula	0.5
ADCRR – Operating Budget	37.4
ADCRR – Overtime and Compensatory Time	17.0
ADCRR – Community Corrections	(3.9)
ADCRR – Private Prison Per Diem	(6.4)
ADCRR – Inmate Health Care Contracted Services	13.4
ADCRR – Substance Abuse Treatment	(3.9)
ADCRR – Non-Contract Medication	(40.0)
ADCRR – Injunction-Related IT Projects	(13.6)
DES – Formula	170.0
ADE – Formula	33.6
ADE – Truth-in-Taxation	(3.5)
Arizona Board of Executive Clemency – Full-time Case Analyst – One FTE	0.1
DHS – Healthcare Facilities Licensing Increase/Cost Shift	(1.6)
Judiciary – Supreme Court – Complaints Investigator – One FTE	0.1
Judiciary – Superior Court – Mohave County New Judge	0.2
Judiciary – Court of Appeals – Human Resources Staff – One FTE	0.1
DPS – Dispatch Call Taker Positions – Nine FTEs	0.8
State Treasurer – Justice of the Peace Salary Funding	0.2
ADWR – Colorado River/Assured Water Supply Program – Six FTEs – OF	0.7
Salary Increases for Law Enforcement (5 Percent), DPS Dispatchers (5 Percent) and Firefighters (15 Percent)	5.0
Statewide Rent Charge Adjustments	1.7
Statewide Retirement Cost Adjustments	(3.2)

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
Statewide AZ360 Accounting System Charge Adjustments	(0.2)
State Fleet Adjustment	3.3
Administrative Adjustments/Revertment	(33.0)
ACA – Rural Broadband Accelerated Match Fund Adjustment – FY 2025	(23.6)

**Figures are rounded.*

Major Footnote Changes

The budget includes the following major footnote additions, deletions and modifications. This list does not include footnotes pertaining to one-time reports, appropriations or footnote changes conforming to enacted policy.

Arizona Acupuncture Board of Examiners

- Allows the Arizona Acupuncture Board of Examiners to use \$42,818 to pay outstanding costs of services provided by the ADOA Central Services Bureau in prior years.

ADOA

- Requires ADOA, by March 31, 2026, to submit a report to the Director of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) and the Governor's Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) on the amount that the Maricopa County Special Health Care District has agreed to send to ADOA for deposit in the state GF in FY 2026.
- Specifies that the report must include the reason for the change, if the amount that the Maricopa County Special Health Care District has agreed to send to ADOA for deposit in FY 2026 has changed from the amount sent in FY 2025.
- Requires the ADOA General Accounting Office to account for the second \$37,500,000 semi-annual payment due on June 30, 2025, from the Maricopa County Special Health Care District to ADOA in the state GF for FY 2025 in the annual financial report.

School Facilities Division (SFD)

- Allows the SFD to use the unencumbered balance of \$18,117,400 in the New School Facilities Fund for facilities and land costs for school districts that received final approval by December 15, 2024.
- Declares the Legislature's intent that the appropriation to SFD in FY 2027 for new school facilities may include up to \$10,000,000 for end of useful life projects that receive approval by December 15, 2025.

AHCCCS

- Requires AHCCCS to distribute monies for secure behavioral health residential facilities that intend to apply for licensure with DHS and provide secure on-site supportive treatment to persons who are determined to be seriously mentally ill, chronically resistant to treatment and placed in the facility by court order.
- Requires AHCCCS and DHS to coordinate, by February 1, 2026, to produce an implementation plan that contains recommendations for secure behavioral health residential facilities populations to the Governor, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives (House) and outlines implementation plan requirements.
- Requires AHCCCS, in consultation with ADOA, to issue a request for proposals for the secure behavioral health residential facilities by May 1, 2026.
- Prescribes requirements for AHCCCS when determining the entity or entities that will receive monies for secure behavioral health residential facilities.
- Stipulates that, for an entity to receive an award, the entity must submit a bid that includes the entity's plan to either construct a new secure behavioral health residential facility or retrofit an existing building to become a secure behavioral health residential facility.

Attorney General (AG)

- Requires the \$10,000,000 appropriation for coordinated reentry to be distributed in \$2,000,000 increments to Coconino, Mohave, Navajo, Pinal and Yavapai Counties in FY 2026 to supplement costs associated with the operation of an existing Coordinated Reentry Planning Services Program.
- Specifies that the coordinated reentry planning services grants include \$10,000,000 from opioid claims-related monies deposited in the Consumer Remediation Subaccount of the Consumer Restitution and Remediation Revolving Fund.
- Requires the AG to complete the transfer of opioid claims-related monies to the ADCRR before spending any monies on coordinated reentry planning services grants.

DCS

- Requires DCS to develop and maintain a webpage for a Group Home Training Program that each DCS-contracted group home employee must annually complete.
- Requires the Group Home Training Program webpage to include:
 - at least one training program that is provided free of charge and includes instruction on preventing human trafficking and internet crimes against children; and
 - educational materials and resources related to preventing human trafficking.

ACA

- Requires the ACA to distribute the monies appropriated for applied research centers to centers located in Arizona that specialize in medical technology in increments of up to \$250,000 within 30 days after the center notifies the ACA in writing that it has received matching funds.
- Exempts the appropriation for applied research centers from lapsing until June 30, 2027.
- Requires the ACA, by December 1, 2025, to submit a report to JLBC on the location, activities and annual expenses of each trade office operated by the ACA during the prior fiscal year.

Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind

- Requires the \$100,000 appropriation for supplemental early childhood therapies to be spent to contract with multiple providers to provide supplemental early childhood listening and spoken language therapies to eligible infants and toddlers from birth to three years old and their families.
- Requires a contractor chosen to provide supplemental early childhood listening and spoken language therapies to ensure that the services will be provided or overseen by a certified auditory verbal educator or therapist in a natural environment, clinical setting, educational setting or virtually.

DES

- Requires DES to distribute monies appropriated for the Education Workforce Innovation Initiative to qualifying programs led by Arizona-based organizations with supporting partnerships from a public university and local education agency and requires a proposal request to be made public by October 15, 2025.
- Requires DES, by March 1, 2026, to provide a report on the utilization of covered services under the DD Program by disability classification and total expenditures for each covered service by primary diagnosis in FY 2025 to the Governor, Legislature and Director of JLBC.

ADE

- Specifies that, of the \$29,000,000 appropriated for additional assistance, \$23,142,00 is a one-time district additional assistance supplement and \$5,858,000 is a one-time charter additional assistance supplement.
- Requires ADE to distribute monies for district and charter additional assistance based proportionally on the additional assistance funding that each district or charter received in FY 2026.
- Allows a school district to budget the one-time district additional assistance in either the district's maintenance and operation fund or unrestricted capital outlay fund.

- Requires ADE to distribute the appropriation for the one-time Free and Reduced-Price Lunch (FRPL) group B weight supplement to school districts and charter schools on a pro rata basis using the weighted student count for FRPL students for that district or school.
- Allows a school district to budget the monies from the one-time FRPL group B weight supplement in either the district's maintenance and operation fund or unrestricted capital outlay fund.
- Requires ADE to allocate monies for the one-time school meal grants to school districts and charter schools that participate in the National Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program under the National School Lunch and Child Nutrition Acts for grants to reduce or eliminate copayments that would be charged to eligible children for reduced-price meals.

ADEQ

- Specifies that ADEQ's lump sum appropriation includes \$776,600 from the Water Quality Fee Fund to add two FTEs to process an increase in permit applications resulting from revised aquifer water quality standards if matching amounts of Aquifer Protection Permit Program fees are deposited in the Water Quality Fee Fund by the end of FY 2026.

DHS

- Requires DHS to distribute monies appropriated for a dementia awareness campaign to a nonprofit organization to implement a public education campaign to increase awareness of Alzheimer's disease and dementia in rural and underserved urban areas in Arizona.

Arizona State Lottery Commission

- Specifies that an amount equal to a percentage of total ticket sales as determined by contract is appropriated to pay online vendor fees and the amount is currently estimated to be \$17,747,100 or 1.079 percent of total ticket sales in FY 2026.

Arizona State Parks Board (ASPB)

- Prohibits ASPB from spending any monies appropriated to the Heritage Fund to purchase property.
- Requires ASPB to report its expenditure plan to JLBC before spending any monies for the State Historic Preservation Office operating costs.

DPS

- Requires the \$750,000 appropriation for the Yuma County family advocacy center distribution to be allocated to an advocacy center in Yuma County that has provided support for domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse and elderly abuse for at least 25 years.

Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR)

- Stipulates that, if ADOR incurs legal expenses to protect the Unclaimed Property Program from legal challenges, the unclaimed property legal expenses must be transferred from the state GF to ADOR's Administrative Fund to pay for the legal expenses.
- Caps the amount that ADOR may transfer from the state GF in FY 2026 at \$1,500,000 for unclaimed property legal expenses.

Secretary of State (SOS)

- Prohibits monies for the Address Confidentiality Program Fund deposit from being transferred to another line item.
- Appropriates \$8,000,000 from the state GF to the SOS to reimburse expenses incurred by Cochise, Maricopa, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz and Yuma Counties for the administration of the special primary and general elections to fill the vacancy in the U.S. House of Representatives for Arizona's Congressional District 7 (CD 7).
- Appropriates \$500,000 from the state GF to the SOS for expenses incurred for the administration of the special primary and general elections to fill the vacancy in CD 7.
- Requires the SOS to reimburse a county for the additional cost of printing and mailing ballots and other election materials, compensation paid to election board and tally board officers serving during the special elections and to administer the special elections.
- Allows the SOS to advance a portion of the estimated expenses to the county and requires a county that receives an advance to provide subsequent documentation to the SOS.
- Requires the clerk of the county board of supervisors, by November 30, 2025, to submit to the SOS for approval itemized claims, together with documentation verified by the clerk, for expenses incurred or to be incurred by the county recorder and the county elections department.
- Requires the SOS, on approval of a claim, to submit the claim to ADOA for payment to the county from the \$8,000,000 appropriation.
- Caps the reimbursement of special election expenses for each county.
- Requires the SOS, by March 1, 2026, to submit a report to JLBC and OSPB on reimbursements.

Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT)

- Specifies that ADOT's operating lump sum includes a \$2,000,000 reduction from the State Highway Fund in FY 2025 from ADOT's Enforcement and Compliance Division.

2025-2026; amusements (S.B. 1736) – Chapter 234

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to amusements necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 budget:

Requires the Arizona State Boxing and Mixed Martial Arts Commission to deposit the revenues from license fees in the Unarmed Combat Subaccount in the Racing Regulation Fund, rather than directly in the Racing Regulation Fund.

A liquor producer or wholesaler may sponsor and provide advertising to a licensed on-sale retailer in connection with a concert held at a temporary extension of the retailer's licensed premises through June 30, 2027, if the temporarily extended premises has an occupancy of more than 1,000 persons and is adjacent to a multipurpose facility.

Continues to require the Arizona Department of Gaming (ADG), in FY 2026, to establish and collect, in addition to statutorily authorized deductions, a regulatory assessment from each commercial racing permittee in the amount of 0.5 percent of the amounts wagered, payable from pari-mutuel pools from in-state and out-of-state live and simulcast races. Continues to authorize the ADG, for race meetings in 2025 and 2026, to allow a first-time starter horse to race as long as the horse has gate approval and at least two timed workouts, one of which must be an out-of-the-gate workout conducted within 60 days of the race in which the horse is entered.

capital outlay; 2025-2026; appropriations (S.B. 1737) – Chapter 235

Effective June 27, 2025, capital outlay expenditures account for \$26,227,100 of FY 2026 state budget expenditures.

Building Renewal – Appropriates \$53,197,000 in FY 2026 to the following state agencies from the specified funds for major maintenance and repair activities for state buildings:

Agency	Fund Source	Amount
Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA)	Capital Outlay Stabilization Fund (COSF)	\$16,800,000
	Legislative, Executive and Judicial Public Buildings Land Fund	\$3,120,500
	state General Fund (state GF)	\$1,600,000
	Telecommunication Fund for the Deaf	\$393,000
Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR)	ADCRR Building Renewal Fund	\$5,864,300
Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD)	AZGFD Fund	\$1,815,700
Arizona State Lottery Commission	State Lottery Fund	\$218,200

Agency	Fund Source	Amount
Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT)	State Highway Fund (SHF)	\$22,990,400
	State Aviation Fund	\$394,900

Requires ADOA to allocate appropriated monies to state agencies for necessary building renewal and allows ADOA to use appropriated monies for building projects related to retrofitting facilities for space consolidation initiatives. Reduces the ADOA appropriation for building renewal by the difference between the amount appropriated and the balance in the COSF, if COSF monies are insufficient to fund the appropriation. The \$393,000 appropriation from the Telecommunication Fund for the Deaf index number SD1700 must be used solely for building renewal at the Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind. ADCRR may not spend building renewal appropriations on personal services or overhead expenses related to managing funded projects.

Capital Projects – Appropriates \$63,541,800 in FY 2026 to the following state agencies from the specified funds for individual capital projects:

Agency	Purpose	Fund	Amount
ADCRR	Replace fire, life alarm and suppression system at the Yuma State Prison	state GF	\$8,500,000
Arizona Exposition and State Fair Board	Capital improvements	Arizona Exposition and State Fair Fund	\$3,815,100
AZGFD	Dam maintenance	Capital Improvement Fund	\$150,000
AZGFD	Hatchery maintenance	Capital Improvement Fund	\$400,000
AZGFD	Property maintenance	Capital Improvement Fund	\$300,000
AZGFD	Dam repairs at Black Canyon Lake and Fool Hollow Lake	AZGFD Fund	\$6,850,000
AZGFD	Hatchery repairs	AZGFD Fund	\$4,700,000
Department of Health Services (DHS)	Arizona State Hospital (ASH) isolation valve installation	ASH Land Fund	\$160,000
DHS	ASH anti-ligature renovations	ASH Land Fund	\$695,000
DHS	ASH perimeter detection system replacement	ASH Land Fund	\$83,000
	Fire line booster pumps replacement	Criminal Justice Enhancement Fund	\$417,900

Agency	Purpose	Fund	Amount
Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC)		ADJC Local Cost Sharing Fund	\$118,700
ADJC	Door and lock replacements at Adobe Mountain School	Criminal Justice Enhancement Fund	\$303,000
ADJC	Kitchen air unit replacements at Adobe Mountain School	Criminal Justice Enhancement Fund	\$641,000
Arizona State Parks Board (ASPB)	Capital improvements	State Parks Revenue Fund	\$3,633,300
ASPB	Verde River State Park construction	state GF	\$500,000
Arizona Pioneers' Home	Capital improvements	Miners' Hospital for Miners with Disabilities Land Fund	\$470,400
Arizona Pioneers' Home	Facility window and door replacements	Miners' Hospital for Miners with Disabilities Land Fund	\$1,515,000
Department of Public Safety (DPS)	Replace office buildings in Payson and Sanders	state GF	\$2,000,000
DPS	Upgrade electrical system at DPS headquarters in Phoenix	state GF	\$11,227,100
ADOT	Improvements to vehicle repair shop in Avondale	SHF	\$6,951,000
ADOT	Construct new maintenance offices in Little Antelope and Gray Mountain	SHF	\$6,861,000
ADOT	Renovate Grand Canyon Airport terminal	State Aviation Fund	\$850,300
Arizona Department of Veterans' Services (ADVS)	Replace heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) at the Tucson veterans' home	state GF	\$2,400,000

Allows ADVS to apply for federal grant monies for the HVAC replacement project prior to review by the Joint Committee on Capital Review (JCCR). Reverts the \$850,300 appropriation to renovate the Grand Canyon Airport terminal and the \$2,400,000 appropriation for the HVAC replacement project to the applicable fund on June 30, 2026, if ADOT and ADVS do not secure federal grant monies for the projects.

Statewide Highway Construction – Appropriates \$458,770,000 from the SHF in FY 2026 to ADOT to plan and construct state highways, acquire rights-of-way and provide for the cost of contracted field administration and construction project engineering and debt service payments on specified bonds. Appropriates balances and collections in the SHF that exceed the amount appropriated by the FY 2026 General Appropriations Act and Capital Outlay Budget Reconciliation Bill to ADOT for authorized purposes. Prescribes reporting and oversight requirements for outlined highway construction expenses, capital outlay information, outstanding debt principal balance and debt service payments.

ADOT – Appropriates \$43,118,800 from the state GF in FY 2026 to ADOT for the following highway construction projects:

Project	Amount
Construct safety improvements along State Route (SR) 70 between mile posts 255 to 301 near San Carlos Apache Reservation	\$1,400,000
Design an additional right-hand turn lane on northbound SR 87 and SR 260 near Payson	\$2,129,800
Design the repaving of Olga Frontage Road between mile posts 366 and 379	\$850,000
Design to widen lanes along SR 347 between Interstate 10 (I-10) and the City of Maricopa	\$1,500,000
Design traffic interchange and connecting arterial roadways at SR 303 and 155th Avenue	\$3,500,000
Distribute to Mohave County for Mountain View Road improvements	\$1,000,000
Distribute to the City of Bullhead City for Hancock Road improvements	\$1,500,000
Distribute to the City of Cottonwood for Main Street preservation and sidewalk improvements	\$1,000,000
Distribute to the City of Flagstaff to design and construct a traffic light signal at the intersection of Woody Mountain Road and U.S. Route 66	\$1,900,000
Distribute to the City of Glendale for the 75th Avenue reconstruction project	\$3,000,000
Distribute to the City of Kingman for Eastern Street infrastructure improvements	\$1,500,000
Distribute to the City of Nogales for improvements to Frank Reed Road	\$1,500,000
Distribute to the City of Nogales for improvements to Industrial Park Road	\$2,900,000
Distribute to the City of Nogales for improvements to La Quinta Road	\$1,800,000
Distribute to the Prescott Regional Airport for infrastructure supporting firefighting aircraft	\$3,500,000
Distribute to the Prescott Regional Airport for maintenance and operations	\$500,000
Distribute to Yuma County for bridge replacement project on Somerton Avenue between West County 10th Street and West County 11th Street	\$1,300,000
Improve intersection on SR 347 at Casa Blanca Road and Cement Plant Access Road	\$10,839,000
Install traffic control systems along SR 389 near Colorado City	\$1,500,000

Declares the Legislature's intent that a local government or council or government entity must contribute \$900,000 in matching monies to design traffic interchange and connecting arterial roadways at SR 303 and 155th Avenue. ADOT may not expend appropriated monies for the project until the matching commitment is confirmed. Appropriations for highway construction projects must be distributed by November 1, 2025, if the applicable entity agrees to the intergovernmental agreement submitted by ADOT.

Airports – Appropriates \$44,340,700 from the State Aviation Fund in FY 2026 to ADOT for airport planning and development. Appropriates balances and collections in the State Aviation Fund that exceed the amount appropriated by the FY 2026 General Appropriations Act and Capital Outlay Budget Reconciliation Bill to ADOT for authorized purposes. Prescribes reporting requirements for aviation grant awards and distributions.

Adjustments – Appropriates, from the state GF to ADOT: 1) \$41,400,000 in FY 2026 for construction of an overpass at Riggs Road and SR 347 and right-of-way acquisition, utility relocation and natural resource recovery; and 2) \$27,000,000 in FY 2026 and \$76,000,000, rather than \$78,000,000, in FY 2028 to design and construct additional vehicle lanes, separated by a lighted median, on the I-10 between SR 85 and Citrus Road. Decreases the FY 2023 appropriation to rehabilitate pavement along U.S. Route 191 between Armory Road and East Safford from \$18,981,000 to \$16,481,000. Repeals the following appropriations from the state GF to ADOT: 1) \$1,529,800 in FY 2024 for roundabout construction and improvements in the Town of Payson at the intersection of Longhorn Road and McLane Road; and 2) \$9,240,000 in FY 2028 to Pinal County for the engineering and design of the West Pinal Parkway East-West Corridor.

Reverts \$23,201,933 to the State Parks Revenue Fund by removing the following appropriations from the State Parks Revenue Fund to the ASPB:

Purpose	Fiscal Year	Amount
Dead Horse Ranch State Park amphitheater	2023	(\$210,000)
Red Rock renovation	2025	(\$4,000,000)
San Rafael renovation	2025	(\$1,500,000)
Smartphone application	2023	(\$535,600)
Southern construction services relocation	2023	(\$2,000,000)
Statewide campground improvements	-	(\$4,100,000)
Statewide sunshade structures	-	(\$2,233,333)
Statewide water conservation	2023	(\$1,339,000)
	2025	(\$1,339,000)
Yuma territorial prison renovation	2025	(\$5,945,000)

The Town of Patagonia may use the \$1,500,000 FY 2024 appropriation for McKeown Avenue reconstruction between Third Avenue West and SR 82. Exempts the \$1,800,000 FY 2022 appropriation to ADOT to replace vehicle fueling facilities in Flagstaff, Holbrook and Kingman from lapsing until June 30, 2027.

Miscellaneous – Prohibits any capital outlay appropriation from being spent on personal services or employee-related expenditures, except for services provided by the inmate construction program for correctional facilities. ADOA may spend up to five percent of all capital outlay appropriations, excluding distributions to nonstate agencies, for expenditures for project management of building renewal and capital projects and may not spend capital outlay appropriations on personal services or employee-related expenditures or maintenance contracts on building components and equipment without JCCR review. The following projects are deemed to have been favorably reviewed by JCCR: 1) \$1,200,000 for an Arizona Exposition and State Fair Board capital project; 2) \$2,458,000 for specified AZGFD capital projects; and 3) a total of \$1,409,700 for a transfer from two projects to fund a project shortfall to construct a roundabout at the intersection of SR 69 and SR 169 in Prescott Valley.

2025-2026; commerce (S.B. 1738) – Chapter 236

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to commerce necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 budget:

Establishes the Office of Defense Innovation (Office) within the Arizona Commerce Authority and outlines the Office's duties. By December 31, 2026, and each year thereafter, the Office must submit a report regarding its activities and recommendations to the Governor, Legislature and Secretary of State.

Continues the Microbusiness Loan Program and Fund for two years, until July 1, 2027, retroactive to June 30, 2025, and extends the deadline for related reports from 2024 to 2026.

2025-2026; criminal justice (S.B. 1739) – Chapter 237

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to criminal justice necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Counties – Requires, by December 1, 2027, and each year thereafter, each county that receives monies for the Coordinated Reentry Planning Services Program to submit a report to the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Governor's Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) and Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) detailing certain recidivism and risk factor metrics. Repeals the committed youth confinement cost sharing fee assessed on Maricopa County by the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections on July 1, 2028. Modifies the distribution formula for the State Aid for Juvenile Dependency Proceedings Fund and prohibits distributions from exceeding \$250,000 in any fiscal year for a single county.

Attorney General (AG) – Retroactive to August 27, 2025, prohibits Anti-Racketeering Revolving Fund (Racketeering Fund) monies from being transferred to the state General Fund (state GF) and delays the prohibition against the AG using Racketeering Fund monies to pay for full-time equivalent position salaries for two additional years.

Allows the AG to use up to \$335,000 annually from the Consumer Protection-Consumer Fraud Revolving Fund to continue operation of the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program (Task Force Program) and requires the Task Force Program to coordinate a national

network of task forces that assist law enforcement with forensic examinations and prosecutions related to technology-facilitated sexual exploitation of and internet crimes against children. By December 31 of each year, the AG must file a report with OSPB and JLBC outlining the AG's current projections for total opioid claims-related litigation monies to be deposited into the Consumer Restitution and Remediation Revolving Fund and a detailed accounting of how those monies have been used.

Department of Public Safety (DPS) – Specifies that the Sex Offender Management Board (Board) is established within DPS and modifies Board membership. Transfers administration of the Anti-Human Trafficking Grant Fund from the Department of Emergency and Military Affairs to DPS. Delays the repeal date of the Fentanyl Prosecution, Diversion and Testing Fund for two years, until July 1, 2027.

Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR) – Requires a county to first establish an intergovernmental agreement with ADCRR prior to filing a claim for reimbursement for certain prosecutions and requires ADCRR, upon receipt of a claim, to file the claim with the Arizona Department of Administration for payment.

Corrections Officer Retirement Plan (CORP) – Beginning July 1, 2026, requires each CORP employer, for all CORP members who are hired on or after July 1, 2018, and who participate in the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Defined Contribution Plan to contribute 5.5 percent, rather than 5 percent, of the employee's gross pensionable compensation as the employer contribution rate. Declares the Legislature's intent to fully cover the costs of the CORP employer contribution rate increase with \$1,000,000 in FY 2027 state GF monies and that this amount is intended to fully cover the costs for all state agencies and local governments on an ongoing basis.

Child and Family Representation Program (Program) – Establishes the Program within the Administrative Office of the Courts to ensure uniform legal representation by attorneys appointed to represent juveniles, parents and guardians in juvenile court proceedings. The Program must enhance the provision of legal representation for children and parents through outlined measures, and must report to the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives and OSPB on the measures taken. Terminates the Program on June 30, 2028.

2025-2026; environment ([S.B. 1740](#)) – Chapter 238

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to the environment necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Arizona Department of Agriculture (AZDA) – Establishes the Agriculture and Water Innovation Fund Pilot Program (Pilot Program), administered by the AZDA, to provide grants and collect data for water-focused innovation in agriculture and establishes the Agriculture and Water Innovation Fund, administered by the AZDA, and consisting of legislative appropriations, grants from federal agencies and monies appropriated by any other lawful source. The AZDA may grant Agriculture and Water Innovation Fund monies to qualified applicants to acquire or contract for implementing innovative technology that improves water use efficiency by improving soil health, subject to prescribed conditions. Terminates the Pilot Program on January 1, 2029.

Arizona State Land Department (ASLD) – Allows the ASLD Commissioner to select and contract with a qualified third party to review any application submitted to the ASLD if the ASLD does not approve, conditionally approve or deny the application within 60 working days after submission to the ASLD. The ASLD may retain a sufficient amount from the Trust Land Management Fund to pay the ASLD's costs for contracting with a qualified third-party reviewer. By February 1, 2026, the ASLD must provide a report to the Legislature that includes the total number of pending applications in outlined phases.

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) – Requires the Director of ADEQ to maintain fees in FY 2026 for vehicle emissions tests conducted in the Phoenix metropolitan area at the same emission fee level as of June 30, 2025. Suspends the statutorily prescribed FY 2026 \$18,000,000 transfer from the state General Fund to the Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund.

Continues to authorize ADEQ to use up to \$6,531,000 in FY 2026 from the Underground Storage Tank Revolving Fund for administrative costs and remediating sewage discharge issues in Arizona border areas.

Colorado River Litigation Fund – Establishes the Colorado River Litigation Fund administered by the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) and consisting of legislative appropriations. Colorado River Litigation Fund monies must be used by ADWR solely to initiate, defend or participate in litigation related to Arizona's apportionment of Colorado River water or other state rights regarding Colorado River water under outlined acts, laws and decrees.

Fire Incident Management Program (Program) –Retroactive to June 30, 2025, establishes the Program, administered by the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA), to provide grants to municipal fire districts for hardware and software that meets outlined conditions. Extends the Fire Incident Management Fund for two years, until June 30, 2027, retroactive to June 30, 2025. An awarded grant must fully fund the costs of a secure incident management system for each municipal fire department or district for three years. Any portion of a grant award made with monies previously appropriated for Program grants that are not fully encumbered by a municipal fire department or district within 12 months after the initial award must be returned to ADOA and ADOA may use the returned grant monies to award additional Program grants. By December 31, 2025, ADOA must submit a report on the Program to the Legislature.

Game and Fish Publications Revolving Fund – Increases the Game and Fish Publications Revolving Fund balance cap to \$250,000, rather than \$80,000.

Arizona Navigable Stream Adjudication Commission (ANSAC) – Continues to allow monies appropriated to ANSAC from the Arizona Water Banking Fund to be used for legal fees in FY 2026.

Arizona Water Protection Fund – Continues to authorize the Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission to grant up to \$336,000 of unobligated monies in the Arizona Water Protection Fund to ADWR to pay for ADWR's administrative costs in FY 2026.

Hazard Mitigation Revolving Fund (Hazard Fund) – Requires, rather than allows, Hazard Fund monies to be used in accordance with guidelines established pursuant to the federal

Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation Act and removes the delayed termination date of the Hazard Fund.

Nuclear Emergency Management Fund (NEMF) – Amends Laws 2025, Chapter 56 to increase the appropriations from the NEMF and the assessments on outlined entities from \$2,617,991 to \$2,667,991 in FY 2026 and from \$2,711,339 to \$2,761,339 in FY 2027.

2025-2026; health care ([S.B. 1741](#)) – Chapter 239

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to health care necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) – Requires ADOA to award a onetime \$3,000,000 grant in FY 2026 to a health care facility operator to construct an outpatient treatment center for dialysis services and prescribes eligibility requirements. For FYs 2026, 2027 and 2028, ADOA must administer a competitive grant program that provides an interoperability software technology solution to support acute care for rural hospitals, health care providers and trauma centers with resources to further treatment and care coordination with a focus on reducing public and private health care costs and unnecessary transportation costs. Prescribes grant program reporting requirements.

Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) – Expands services available to eligible AHCCCS and Arizona Long-Term Care System (ALTCS) members, subject to available funding and approval by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (U.S. CMS), to include traditional healing services, speech therapy services and cochlear implants.

Subject to approval by U.S. CMS and available funding, the Director of AHCCCS must implement limited benefit coverage prerelease services to eligible incarcerated individuals and committed youth for up to 90 days immediately preceding the individual's expected date of release from confinement.

Continues to allow AHCCCS to extend risk contingency rate settings for all managed care organizations (MCOs) and funding for all MCO administrative funding levels imposed in contract year 2010 for the contract year ending September 30, 2026. By December 31, 2026, AHCCCS must transfer any federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act monies to the counties, per the counties' proportional share of the state's contribution. By December 1, 2025, the Director of AHCCCS must offer one-year AHCCCS complete care contract extensions to all managed care entities with then-current AHCCCS complete care contracts beginning with the contract number YH19-0001, including those with regional behavioral health agreements. If accepted, the contract extensions are offered as provided by law and effective between October 1, 2027, and September 30, 2028.

Requires AHCCCS, by January 31, 2026, to prepare and issue a report to outlined officials regarding the costs and utilization of mental health medications during contract year 2024 that includes data relating to the cost, utilization and claim status for mental health medications.

ALTCS Contributions – Outlines individual county contributions for ALTCS. Directs the State Treasurer to withhold monies as prescribed to fulfill county contribution obligations and deposit any paid or withheld county contributions into the ALTCS Fund. Continues to authorize the State Treasurer to collect additional monies from counties if the aggregate cost for ALTCS exceeds the amount specified in the FY 2026 General Appropriations Act. The counties' share of the state's contribution must comply with federal maintenance of effort requirements. Requires the Director of AHCCCS to notify the State Treasurer of the counties' share of the state's contribution and report the amount to the Director of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

County Acute Care – Outlines individual county contributions for county acute care. Directs the State Treasurer to withhold monies as prescribed to fulfill county contribution obligations for acute care and deposit any paid or withheld county contributions into the AHCCCS and ALTCS Funds. Continues to require that 1/12th of the prescribed county acute care contributions be made to the State Treasurer by the fifth day of each month. Upon request of the Director of AHCCCS, the State Treasurer must require up to three months' payment in advance. Allows the Director of AHCCCS to instruct the State Treasurer to reduce or return county acute care payments as outlined, if the payments exceed costs incurred by AHCCCS.

Department of Health Services (DHS) – Requires DHS to add Duchenne muscular dystrophy to the state's newborn screening panel on either October 1, 2027, or two years after Duchenne muscular dystrophy is added to the Recommended Uniform Screening Panel adopted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, whichever occurs first.

Extends the Collaborative Care Uptake Fund for two years until July 1, 2027, and the Arizona Nurse Education Investment Pilot Program (Pilot Program) for one year. Excludes the Arizona Board of Regents from FY 2026 Pilot Program distributions.

Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) Payments – Outlines DSH payment amounts for qualifying nonstate-operated public hospitals, private qualifying DSHs and the Arizona State Hospital (ASH). Outlines notification, payment distribution and deposit requirements for AHCCCS after filing claims with the federal government and receiving federal financial participation based on certified amounts. By March 31, 2026, ASH must provide specified forms for qualifying DSH expenditures to AHCCCS. Continues to require AHCCCS to assist ASH in determining the amount of qualifying DSH expenditures and maintains reporting requirements and distribution procedures for federal matching funds for FY 2026.

Student Registered Nurse Anesthetist Clinical Rotation Program (Program) – Establishes the Program within the Arizona Board of Nursing (AZBN) to expand the capacity of preceptor training programs for registered nurse anesthetist students. The AZBN must develop a grant program and application process for FY 2026 to distribute appropriated monies to licensed health care institutions to expand or develop clinical training placements for nurse anesthetist students, as prescribed.

Miscellaneous – Continues to exclude county contributions for costs of inpatient and in-custody competency restoration treatment and Proposition 204 administrative costs from county expenditure limitations.

2025-2026; higher education ([S.B. 1742](#)) – Chapter 240

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to higher education necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Community College District (CCD) Funding – Funds the FY 2026 operating state aid for CCDs and CCD science, technology, engineering and mathematics and workforce development programs as specified in the FY 2026 General Appropriations Act.

Lease-to-Own and Bond Transactions – Increases, from \$800,000,000 to \$1,125,000,000, the maximum amount in lease-to-own and bond transactions that may be entered into by the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) and modifies lease-to-own and bond agreement approval requirements. Of the \$1,125,000,000 in authorized lease-to-own and bond transactions, ABOR must allocate \$162,000,000 in FYs 2026 and 2027 to public universities, with each public university receiving between 25 and 45 percent of the amount each year. ABOR must submit the scope, purpose and estimated cost of each new project that will be financed by lease-to-own and bond transactions to the Joint Committee on Capital Review (JCCR) for review and approval. JCCR must hear and approve each submission as outlined and ABOR may not distribute monies for a project until approved by a majority vote of the JCCR.

Tuition Scholarship Funds – Retroactive to July 1, 2025, modifies and adds requirements relating to various tuition scholarship funds. On notice from ABOR, the State Treasurer must invest and divest monies in the Arizona Veterinary Loan Assistance Fund and the Spouses of Military Veterans Tuition Scholarship Fund (Military Scholarship Fund) and credit monies earned from investment to the respective fund. After all Military Scholarship Fund scholarships are awarded and surplus monies are distributed for specified purposes, ABOR must annually deposit the lesser of \$500,000 or the amount of remaining unexpended and unencumbered Military Scholarship Fund monies in the Spouses and Dependents of Law Enforcement Officer Tuition Scholarship Fund (LEO Scholarship Fund) by June 30. If there are any remaining monies after the LEO Scholarship Fund deposit, ABOR must deposit the remaining Military Scholarship Fund monies as prescribed. Removes the July 1, 2025, termination date for the LEO Scholarship Fund and narrows eligibility requirements for a LEO Scholarship Fund scholarship.

University Funding – Continues, for FY 2026, to allow the Legislature to appropriate less than a two-to-one match to student registration fees assessed by the Arizona Financial Aid Trust Fund.

Miscellaneous – By November 1, 2025, and each year thereafter, ABOR must submit to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee for review: 1) the amount of monies ABOR retained from each public university to supplement ABOR's operating budget; 2) the current fiscal year expenditure plan for retained monies; and 3) an accounting of how ABOR spent retained monies in the immediately preceding fiscal year.

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to human services necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Extended Foster Care Comprehensive Service Model (Model) – Requires the Department of Child Safety (DCS) to prepare a scope of work for a Model that includes supportive services and case management provided by contracted community providers for young adults between 17.5 and 20 years old who participate in the Extended Foster Care Program. Outlines Model requirements, including: 1) weekly engagement with each young adult; 2) life skills training; 3) education and enrollment assistance; and 4) career and employment planning and readiness. Establishes the Extended Foster Care Success Coaching Program, the Extended Foster Care Quality Review Committee and the Model Fund, administered by DCS, and consisting of legislative appropriations.

Developmental Disabilities Group Home Monitoring Program (Program) – Extends the Program beyond the three-year pilot period until January 1, 2027. Beginning January 1, 2026, requires the Program's designated entity, when monitoring group homes that provide services to clients with complex needs, to: 1) determine whether a client has a behavior treatment plan in place that is compliant with the Department of Economic Security's (DES's) rules and has had a positive impact on the client's behaviors; and 2) use a monitoring tool to assess whether the group home has met prescribed criteria, including. The Program's designated entity must complete follow-up monitoring reviews for group homes that are identified as having significant quality of care concerns and submit monthly reports to DES detailing the results of the previous month's monitoring, including identified systemic issues and recommendations for improvements. DES must establish an expedited referral system by January 1, 2026, to ensure that copies of all incident reports, quality of care complaints, investigation records and client service requests for each monitored group home are forwarded to the designated entity for review and analysis. By January 1, 2030, the Senate and House of Representatives Health and Human Services Committees must review all reports submitted to DES and DES's responses and to determine whether the Program should be continued, modified or discontinued.

Out-of-School Time Grant Program (Grant Program) – Establishes the Grant Program and Grant Program Fund, administered by DES, to expand out-of-school time child care for eligible pupils between 5 and 12 years old who come from a household earning \$150,000 or less per year. Prescribes Grant Program administration and reporting requirements, including requiring the Grant Program to reduce the cost of child care to participating families by at least two-thirds and requiring DES to allocate at least 30 percent of grant monies for eligible grantees in rural communities.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) – Continues to require DES in FY 2026 to screen and test each adult who is eligible to receive TANF cash benefits and who DES has reasonable cause to believe engages in the illegal use of controlled substances. Any TANF recipient who tests positive for an unprescribed controlled substance is ineligible to receive TANF benefits for one year.

Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH) – Continues ADOH for two years, until July 1, 2027, retroactive to July 2, 2025. ADOH must include prescribed outcome-based metrics for ADOH-funded projects and initiatives in its annual report to the Governor and Legislature and must adopt policies and procedures for responding to the alleged sale, manufacture or possession of dangerous and narcotic drugs as a condition of funding for outlined emergency shelter and transitional housing programs. ADOH must: 1) establish and implement a comprehensive performance measurement system to assess the effectiveness of ADOH housing programs; 2) establish prescribed secure wire transfer protocols to mitigate fraud risks; 3) engage the Board of Manufactured Housing to review regulatory fees associated with manufactured housing in Arizona to ensure alignment with regulatory costs; 4) establish and provide quarterly reports on a tracking system to monitor complaint resolution timelines; and 5) require ADOH Staff to complete an annual conflict of interest disclosure form and monitor substantial interest disclosures.

Housing Trust Fund (HTF) – Beginning January 1, 2026, requires HTF monies to be awarded in the following order of priority for the first four months of each fiscal year: 1) constructing or renovating emergency shelter facilities or for operational expenses for emergency shelter services; 2) constructing or renovating transitional housing units; and 3) constructing or renovating other types of shelter or housing as determined by ADOH to best serve the needs of persons who are seriously mentally ill and chronically resistant to treatment. Remaining HTF monies that have not been encumbered or awarded by priority may be spent based on stakeholder feedback. Outlines HTF monies review and reporting requirements.

Veterans' Donations Fund (VDF) – Requires the Director of the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services (ADVS) to establish a subaccount in the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund (SHVF Subaccount) to purchase necessary equipment, make necessary improvements or complete ongoing maintenance for, and support the needs of veterans residing at, the nursing and domiciliary homes. ADVS must transfer 15 percent of the revenues deposited in the VDF to the SHVF Subaccount and may use up to \$150,000 from the VDF each fiscal year and two full-time equivalent positions for related administration purposes.

Miscellaneous – Beginning January 1, 2026, allows Military Transitional Housing Fund monies to include legislative appropriations and be used for supportive services and transitional unit rehabilitation for veterans. Extends the Homeless Shelter and Services Fund for two years, until July 1, 2027.

2025-2026; K-12 education ([S.B. 1744](#)) – Chapter 242

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to K-12 education necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Basic State Aid – Increases the base level in FY 2026 from \$5,013 to \$5,113.26 per pupil. Increases transportation support level and charter additional assistance amounts by two percent for standard inflation. Updates TY 2025 qualifying tax rates to reflect annual truth-in-taxation rate adjustments.

Small Schools Adjustment Modifications – Retroactive to July 1, 2025, and until January 1, 2027, determines that a common school district is eligible for a small school adjustment in FY 2026 if the district: 1) is located in a county with a population between 200,000 and 210,000

persons; 2) has a student count for kindergarten programs and grades 1 through 8 (K-8) between 125 and 150 students; and 3) has an average daily membership for K-8 students of less than 125 in the current year.

Adult Education Programs – Retroactive to July 1, 2025, transfers oversight of the Adult Workforce Diploma Program (Diploma Program) from the State Board of Education (SBE) to the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO), reestablishes the Community College Adult Education Workforce Development Program (Workforce Development Program) and the Continuing High School and Workforce Training Program (Continuing High School Program) within the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) and modifies adult education program requirements. The SBE, in cooperation with the OEO, must reestablish prescribed performance measures to allow for a comparable evaluation across adult education programs.

The OEO must include, in the monthly written update to Diploma Program providers, the number of enrolled students for whom a monthly invoice has, or has not, been submitted and begin reviewing Diploma Program provider data in FY 2028 to ensure compliance with minimum performance standards. Up to five percent of Diploma Program Fund monies may be used for administrative costs.

Increases the amount of funding each Workforce Development Program school may receive per full-time student from \$3,000 to \$5,000 and specifies that Workforce Development Program Fund monies must be distributed to participating schools on a quarterly basis. The total amount of Workforce Development Program Fund monies distributed in any quarter may not exceed one-fourth of the total amount allocated for participating schools in that fiscal year and the amount of unspent monies that were allocated for schools in a previous quarter. ADE must accept Workforce Development Program applications between July 1 and June 30 of each year and determine an applicant's eligibility within six weeks of receiving the application. Removes the requirement that each adult learner must participate in integrated education and training for the learner's school to receive Workforce Development Program Fund monies and prohibits more than five percent of the monies appropriated to the Workforce Development Program Fund each year to be used for administrative costs.

Caps a Continuing High School Program school's total projected full-time enrollment at: 1) 130 in FY 2026; and 2) 0 beginning in FY 2027. Outlines information that each Continuing High School Program school must annually report to ADE, including the number of course credits and industry-recognized credentials earned by participating adult learners.

Ninth Grade On-Track Grant Program (Grant Program) – Establishes the Grant Program and Grant Program Fund, administered by ADE, to provide grant awards to participating school districts and charter schools for the establishment and expansion of specified programs, opportunities and strategies that help grade nine students complete sufficient credits to be on track to graduate in four years. Grants must be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis in an amount equal to \$150 for each enrolled student. Caps the total number of grade nine students who may be funded by the Grant Program at: 1) 22,650 for grants awarded in FY 2026; and 2) 0 beginning in FY 2027. Outlines Grant Program application procedures and administrative and compliance requirements.

Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) Requirements – Requires each public school that provides instruction to students in any of grades 9 through 12 and sponsors an athletic team or sports program to provide an AED at each school campus until August 1, 2026, and beginning August 1, 2026: 1) provide an AED at each school campus and school-sponsored event; and 2) ensure that each provided AED meets outlined requirements. A public school may accept gifts, grants and other donations to comply with AED requirements.

Miscellaneous – Allows ADE to use Failing Schools Tutoring Fund monies in FY 2026 for specified school improvements and requires ADE to report the proposed expenditures by September 1, 2025, as outlined. A county school superintendent may offer high school equivalency (HSE) preparation instruction through an accommodation school to grade 12 students enrolled in the school if: 1) the superintendent obtains written consent from each participating student; and 2) each student who participates in the HSE preparation instruction is also enrolled in a qualifying career and technical education course or program. Retroactive to June 30, 2025, delays the date by which ADE must submit a report on the Early Education and Career Exploration Program to June 30, 2026, and delays the termination date for the Early Education and Career Exploration Program and Fund to July 1, 2027.

2025-2026; local government (S.B. 1745) – Chapter 243

Makes the following session law changes relating to local governments necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Continues to allow counties with a population of fewer than 250,000 persons to use up to \$1,250,000 of any source of county revenue to meet any county fiscal obligation in FY 2026. By October 1, 2025, a county using the flexible authority must report to the Director of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee: 1) whether the county used a revenue source for purposes other than outlined to meet a county fiscal obligation; and 2) the specific source and amount of revenues that the county intends to use in FY 2026.

Allows Gila County to establish, maintain and operate facilities to provide services to veterans using the \$3,000,000 appropriation to the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services for a Gila County veterans retreat in the FY 2024 General Appropriations Act.

~~management; state buildings; 2025-2026~~ (NOW: management; state properties; 2025-2026) (S.B. 1746) – Chapter 244

Makes the following statutory and session law change relating to the management of state buildings necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Continues to set the Capital Outlay Stabilization Fund square-footage rental rates for state-owned buildings at \$17.87 for office space and \$6.43 for storage space in FY 2026. Amends Laws 2025, Chapter 35 to correct the prescribed boundary of the state sovereign land transferred from the Arizona State Land Department to Bullhead City.

Replaces the requirement for the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) to report a proposed rental fee exemption to Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) Staff before authorizing the exemption with a requirement for ADOA, by June 30 of each year, to submit a report to JLBC Staff that details all rental fee exemptions authorized in the prior year.

2025-2026; revenue ([S.B. 1747](#)) – Chapter 245

Makes the following session law change relating to revenue necessary to implement the FY 2026 state budget:

Prohibits the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) from assessing and collecting fees from counties, cities, towns, councils of governments and regional transportation authorities to implement the ADOR Integrated Tax System Modernization Project for FY 2026.

2025-2026; state budget implementation ([S.B. 1748](#)) – Chapter 246

Makes the following statutory and session law changes necessary to implement the FY 2026 state budget:

Retroactive to July 1, 2025, continues to require any unrestricted federal monies received by the state in FY 2026 to be deposited into the state General Fund (state GF) to pay essential government services.

Continues to: 1) suspend the Budget Stabilization Fund (BSF) cap of 10 percent of state GF revenue for FY 2026; 2) state that the Legislature is not required to appropriate monies to or transfer monies from the BSF in FYs 2026 through 2028; and 3) prohibit the State Treasurer from transferring any surplus monies from the BSF to the state GF in FY 2026.

Requires the Director of the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA), during FY 2026, to consult with and accommodate the policies of the budget units of the legislative branch in implementing ADOA's Personnel and Financial Data Management System and applications. A public agency may not allow a person to serve in any capacity as a state officer or employee if the person's salary, wages or other compensation is paid in whole or in part by private monies, except for the Department of Public Safety, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and any public university under the jurisdiction of the Arizona Board of Regents.

Renames the Arizona Commission of African-American Affairs as the Arizona Office of African-American Affairs.

2025-2026; taxation; omnibus ([S.B. 1749](#)) – Chapter 247

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to taxation necessary to implement the FY 2026 state budget:

Income Tax – Extends, until June 30, 2029, and retroactive to June 29, 2024, the authorized use of Public School Extracurricular Activity Fees Tax Credit contributions for: 1) the acquisition of outlined capital items; 2) community school meal programs; 3) student consumable health care supplies; and 4) playground equipment and shade structures for playground equipment. Increases, for taxable years beginning January 1, 2026, the individual income tax subtraction for

unreimbursed adoption expenses from \$3,000 to: 1) \$5,000 for a single individual or head of household; or 2) \$10,000 for a married couple.

Property Tax – Exempts a veteran with a service- or nonservice-connected disability from the requirement for the veteran's property to be valued below the statutory property assessment limit to qualify for a property tax exemption. The property of a veteran with a service-connected disability whose U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) disability rating is 100 percent is exempt from the full amount of property tax. The surviving spouse of a veteran with a service-connected disability whose VA disability rating is 100 percent may continue to claim the full property tax exemption as long as the spouse does not remarry and the property is used as the spouse's primary residence. Excludes payments from any veterans pensions, rather than only veterans disability pensions, from the calculation of a veteran's income for the purpose of the exemption eligibility income cap.

Beginning January 1, 2026, increases the business personal property tax exemption to \$500,000.

Transaction Privilege Tax (TPT) – Expands the TPT deduction and use tax exemption relating to pipes to include pipes or valves that are four inches in diameter or larger that are used to transport wastewater.

transportation; 2025-2026 (S.B. 1750) – Chapter 248

Makes the following statutory changes relating to transportation necessary to implement the FY 2026 state budget:

Transportation Funding – Establishes the Advanced Air Mobility Fund (Air Mobility Fund), the Statewide Infrastructure Trust Fund (Infrastructure Trust Fund) and the Statewide Transportation Innovation Fund (Innovation Fund), administered by the State Treasurer, and consisting of legislative appropriations and any nonfederal gifts, grants, donations or other monies received by the State Treasurer from any public or private source for transportation projects. Air Mobility Fund monies must be used to construct vertiports and purchase advanced air mobility vehicles that can carry passengers or cargo for testing and demonstration purposes. Infrastructure Trust Fund monies must be used to fund any phase of development or construction of transportation projects in the current or next fiscal year. The State Treasurer and Arizona Department of Transportation must submit an expenditure plan to the Joint Committee on Capital Review before any expenditure is made from the Air Mobility or Infrastructure Trust Fund.

Statewide Transportation Innovation Program (Program) – Establishes the Program, administered by the State Treasurer, and consisting of grant recipients that must provide a mode of transportation that seats up to 15 passengers, allow for dropping off and picking up passengers using predetermined locations and include specified information in the grant application. Innovation Fund monies must be used for equipment, driver salaries, insurance costs and payment of other costs directly related to the implementation of an entity's innovation transportation plan. Grant applications must be reported to the legislative transportation committees and, at the request of the committees' chairpersons, the State Treasurer must hold a public meeting to review applications and receive a legislative recommendation.

Miscellaneous – Removes the Department of Child Safety from the list of agencies excluded from participation in the State Motor Vehicle Fleet.

developmental disabilities; appropriations; waivers (H.B. 2945/S.B. 1734) – Chapter 93 E

An emergency measure effective April 24, 2025, that appropriates \$122,300,300 from the Prescription Drug Rebate Fund (Rebate Fund) and \$403,000,000 from the Developmental Disabilities (DD) Medicaid expenditure authority in FY 2025 to the Department of Economic Security (DES) for the DD Medicaid Program. The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) may not submit to the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (U.S. CMS) a new amendment for a Section 1115 demonstration waiver or waiver extension, if the waiver: 1) expands eligibility for Title XIX or XXI coverage to populations not statutorily authorized as of January 1, 2025; 2) adds new categories of covered services or benefits not statutorily authorized as of January 1, 2025; or 3) will lead to an annual increase in utilization greater than 10 percent for specific services affected by the proposed amendment or provision above what the utilization would have been without the proposed amendment or provision. Any proposed change to a Section 1115 demonstration waiver must be reviewed by the Health and Human Services Committees of Reference and the recommendation on whether to approve the proposed changes must be forwarded to the Senate and House of Representatives.

Appropriates \$355,000 from the Rebate Fund in FY 2025 to the Office of the Auditor General for the special audit of the Parent as Paid Caregivers Program (PPCG). A parent in the PPCG may not bill for attendant care services while the minor child is not present and may only provide attendant care and habilitation services between 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. except as otherwise provided in the child's plan of care. Beginning July 1, 2025, AHCCCS and DES must implement the 40-hour per week per child care services limit pursuant to the approved PPCG amendment. By October 1, 2025, AHCCCS and DES must adopt and implement a strengthened standardized assessment tool to determine the need for extraordinary care for minor children under PPCG. Requires DES to implement an electronic visit verification system that delineates whether a parent or nonprofit provider is providing the direct care services. Requires AHCCCS and DES to provide Joint Legislative Budget Committee Staff a quarterly report on the use of attendant care and habilitation services under the PPCG. The Auditor General must conduct or contract for a special audit of PPCG and submit a report of the audit to the Governor, Legislature and Secretary of State.

LEGISLATION VETOED

budget unit; vacant positions; reporting (S.B. 1510) – VETOED

Requires the Arizona Department of Administration to collect a list of all full-time equivalent positions (FTEs) that have been vacant for at least 150 days from each budget unit, excluding the Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry, Department of Public Safety, Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR), universities under the jurisdiction of ABOR and community college districts. Each fiscal year, a budget unit must eliminate any positions that have been vacant for more than 150 days and adjust the unit's allocated FTEs to reflect the elimination of vacant positions.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1510 does not accurately reflect the state's merit-based hiring process.

noncustodial federal monies; appropriation (H.B. 2814) – VETOED

Beginning January 1, 2027, states that the Legislature retains the authority to appropriate noncustodial federal monies and allows the Legislature to make lump sum appropriations while not in session to obtain expenditure authority over unanticipated noncustodial federal monies. Before spending monies from a lump sum appropriation, a budget unit must submit the proposed expenditure to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee for review and to meet certain accounting, budgeting and auditing requirements.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2814 would create challenges for the state budget process.

VETOED FY 2025 – FY 2026 STATE BUDGET PACKAGES

general appropriations act; 2025-2026 (H.B. 2947) – VETOED

The FY 2026 budget includes spending in the total amount of \$17.26 billion and a cash balance of \$425.4 million. The vetoed budget includes ongoing and one-time revenues of \$17.69 billion.

The budget includes FY 2026 (unless otherwise stated) one-time additional state General Fund (state GF) spending as follows:

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) – Federal Repayment	15.0
ADOA – Fire Incident Management Grants	2.3
ADOA – Law Enforcement Records Management	3.2

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
ADOA – Healthcare Interoperability Grants	1.0
ADOA – School Facilities Division (SFD) – New Construction Caseload Differences	(0.4)
ADOA – SFD – Building Renewal Grants	183.3
Arizona Department of Agriculture (AZDA) – Agriculture and Water Innovation Deposit – Other Fund (OF)	1.0
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) – Shift Hospital Assessment Savings to Ongoing	100.0
AHCCCS – Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentage (FMAP) Adjustments – FY 2025	140.3
AHCCCS – FMAP Adjustments	(6.0)
AHCCCS – Eligibility Income Verification Data Charge – FY 2025	1.8
AHCCCS – Graduate Medical Education	5.0
AHCCCS – Speech Therapy/Cochlear Implant Coverage	0.3
AHCCCS – Court-Ordered Stabilization Process/Treatment for Impaired Persons (Pima County)	2.0
AHCCCS – Procurement Costs – Acute Care Health Plans	0.1
Department of Child Safety (DCS) – Operating Costs – FY 2025	6.9
DCS – Caseworkers – FY 2025	12.3
DCS – Office of Child Welfare Investigations – FY 2025	0.6
DCS – Congregate Care – FY 2025	10.3
DCS – Adoption Services – FY 2025	1.5
DCS – Permanent Guardianship Subsidy – FY 2025	(14.6)
DCS – Kinship Care – FY 2025	(12.1)
DCS – Foster Home Placement – FY 2025	(0.6)
DCS – Out-of-Home Support Services – OF – FY 2025	(6.0)
DCS – In-Home Mitigation – FY 2025	(4.3)
DCS – Comprehensive Health Plan – Expenditure Authority – FY 2025	43.8
DCS – FMAP Adjustments – FY 2025	9.0
DCS – Group Home Training Resources to Prevent Child Trafficking/Internet Crimes	0.1
Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) – Wearable Technology Research	0.5
Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR) – Contract Shortfall Funding	9.5

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind – Early Childhood Therapies	0.1
Department of Economic Security (DES) – Developmental Disabilities (DD) Formula	32.3
DES – FMAP Adjustments – FY 2025	61.8
DES – DD Supplemental – FY 2025	(76.1)
DES – Community-Based Services for DD Higher-Cost Clients – OF – FY 2025	13.1
DES – Eligibility Income Verification Data Charge – FY 2025	0.7
DES – Produce Incentive Program	2.0
DES – Older Individuals Who Are Blind Program	1.0
DES – Education Workforce Innovation Initiative	0.5
DES – Child Development Center – City of Taylor	1.5
Arizona Department of Education (ADE) – Formula Supplemental – FY 2025	33.6
ADE – Formula Supplemental – Qasimyar Settlement – FY 2025	8.4
ADE – Assessment Contract Increase – OF	5.0
ADE – ESSER Federal Fund Backfill – OF – FY 2025	2.0
ADE – 9th Grade On-Track Program	1.0
ADE – Continuing High School Workforce/Training Program	1.0
ADE – Community College Adult Education Workforce Development Program	1.0
ADE – Adult Workforce Diploma Program	1.0
ADE – Rural School Nurse Access Grant Fund	2.5
ADE – Automated External Defibrillators for Public High School Athletics	0.5
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) – Water Quality Fee Fund – OF	9.0
ADEQ – Iron King Mine/Humboldt Smelter Cleanup – OF	2.0
Department of Forestry and Fire Management (DFFM) – Fire Expenses Repayment – OF – FY 2025	11.2
DFFM – Wildfire Suppression Funding – OF	30.0
Arizona Game and Fish Department – Livestock Compensation Fund Deposit	0.1
Department of Health Services (DHS) – Arizona State Hospital Operating Supplemental – OF	3.3
DHS – Dementia Awareness Campaign	0.75
DHS – Ibogaine Clinical Research Grants	5.0

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
Arizona Department of Homeland Security – Administrative Match for Federal Cybersecurity Grant – OF	0.1
Legislature – Legislative Council – Priority-Based Budget Software	1.0
State Natural Resource Conservation Board – Artificial Groundwater Recharge Facilities – OF	0.25
Arizona Board of Nursing – Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist Preceptor Grant	0.5
Arizona State Parks Board – State Lake Improvement Fund Deposit	0.5
Prescott Historical Society – Territorial Governor Mansion Restoration	0.5
Department of Public Safety (DPS) – Vehicle Replacement	8.7
DPS – Civil Air Patrol Maintenance and Operations	0.1
Secretary of State (SOS) – CD 7 Special Election – FY 2025	7.5
SOS – Arizona America250 Commission	0.5
SOS – Address Confidentiality Program Fund Deposit	0.4
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – International Dark Sky Discovery Center	5.0
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Bullhead City – Main Water-Line Transmission	1.0
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Bullhead City – Hancock Road Repaving	1.0
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Counties – Reimburse Federal SAVE Implementation Costs	0.25
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Counties – Coordinated Re-Entry – OF	10.0
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Gilbert – Wells Project – OF	5.0
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Kingman – Easter Street Infrastructure	1.0
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Local Law Enforcement Distribution – Border Security Fund	8.7
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Prescott Regional Airport Fire Center Aircraft Pad	3.5
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Prescott Regional Airport Maintenance and Operations	0.5
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Maricopa County – Jail Kitchen/Laundry Upgrades – OF	1.7
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Maricopa County – Recorder Operating Funding	4.0

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Maricopa County – Recorder Voter List Maintenance	.05
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Mohave County – Horizon Six Community Fire Infrastructure	0.5
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Mohave County – Recorder Anti-Fraud Ballot Paper	0.2
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Mohave County – Meadview/South Cove Launch Ramp	0.5
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Mohave County – Mountain View Road Improvements	1.0
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Peoria – Parks Capital Improvements	0.5
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Sierra Vista – Spaceport	0.8
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Yavapai County – Sheriff's Office Satellite Communications Pilot Program	0.5
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Yuma County – Recorder Operating Funding	1.0
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Yuma County – Excess Waste Tire Cleanup	0.9
State Treasurer – Local Distribution – Yuma County – Family Advocacy Center	0.7
Universities – Arizona State University – Center for American Institutions	0.4
Universities – University of Arizona – Yuma Center of Excellence for Desert Agriculture	2.75
Universities – University of Arizona – Geological Survey	0.25
Universities – Medical Mission Scholarships	0.05
Universities – Arizona REACH Program	0.25
Arizona Department of Veterans' Services (ADVS) – State Home for Veterans Trust Fund Deposit – FY 2025	1.0
ADVS – Pinal County Veterans Center Funding	0.1
Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) – Colorado River Litigation – OF	1.0
State Employee Health Insurance Funding	140.0

**Figures are rounded.*

The budget also includes ongoing additional state GF spending as follows:

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
AZDA – Livestock Brand Inspectors	0.5
AHCCCS – Formula Adjustments	20.0
AHCCCS – Prescription Drug Rebate Fund Ongoing Shift	(125.0)
AHCCCS – Eligibility Income Verification Data Charge	2.2
AHCCCS – Reforms	(50.0)
AHCCCS – Contracted Administrative Costs for Reforms	11.5
AHCCCS – Ongoing Hospital Assessment Savings	(100.0)
AHCCCS – Critical Access Hospitals Supplemental Pool	4.3
DCS – Operating Budget	6.9
DCS – Caseworkers	4.6
DCS – Office of Child Welfare	0.6
DCS – Congregate Care	23.2
DCS – Adoption Services	(2.9)
DCS – Permanent Guardianship	(3.5)
DCS – Kinship Care	(11.5)
DCS – Foster Home Placement	(2.0)
DCS – Extended Foster Care	3.9
DCS – Extended Foster Care Service Model	6.4
DCS – Out-of-Home Support – OF	(6.0)
DCS – In-Home Mitigation – OF	6.0
DCS – Preventive Services – Expenditure Authority	7.0
DCS – Comprehensive Health Plan Service – Expenditure Authority	22.2
Community Colleges – Formula	0.5
DES – Formula Adjustments	0.5
DES – Formula Adjustments Waiver Implementation Savings	(33.8)
DES – Community-Based Services for DD High-Cost Clients	14.8
DES – Adult Protective Services – Federal Funds Backfill	3.7
DES – Eligibility Income Verification Data Charge – Federal Funds Backfill	1.0
ADE – Formula Adjustments – Truth in Taxation	(3.5)
ADE – Payment Process Improvement	2.0
ADE – School Meals Funding	3.8
DHS – Arizona State Hospital – Increase Sexually Violent Persons	1.5

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
DHS – Arizona State Hospital – Operating Costs	1.8
DHS – Healthcare Facilities Licensing Increase/Cost Shift	(1.6)
Judiciary – Supreme Court – Child and Family Representation Program	0.2
Judiciary – Supreme Court – Complaints Investigator	0.1
Judiciary – Superior Court – Mohave County New Judge	0.2
Legislature – Auditor General – County Treasurer Financial Compliance Reviews	1.2
Salary Increases – Correctional Officers (5 percent), State-Sworn Officers (5 percent) and DFFM (15 percent)	32.2
Statewide Rent Charge Adjustments	0.8
Statewide Retirement Cost Adjustments	(3.2)
Statewide AZ360 Accounting System Charge Adjustments	(0.2)
Administrative Adjustments	(5.1)
ACA – Rural Broadband Accelerated Match Fund Transfer – FY 2025	(23.6)

**Figures are rounded.*

Major Footnote Changes

The budget includes the following major footnote additions, deletions and modifications. This list does not include footnotes pertaining to one-time reports, appropriations or footnote changes conforming to enacted policy.

Acupuncture Board of Examiners

- Allows the Acupuncture Board of Examiners to use \$42,818 to pay outstanding costs of services provided by THE ADOA Central Services Bureau in prior years.

ADOA

- Requires ADOA, by March 31, 2026, to submit a report to the Director of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) and the Governor's Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) on the amount that the Maricopa County Special Health Care District has agreed to send to ADOA for deposit in the state GF in FY 2026.
- Specifies that the report must include the reason for the change, if the amount that the Maricopa County Special Health Care District has agreed to send to ADOA for deposit in FY 2026 has changed from the amount sent in FY 2025.

AZDA

- Requires the AZDA to fill the five FTEs with three livestock inspectors, one veterinary assistant and one veterinary technician.

Attorney General

- Requires monies appropriated for government accountability and special litigation to be used only for enforcing statutes relating to violations of state law by political subdivisions.

DCS

- Requires DCS to develop and maintain a webpage for a Group Home Training Program that each DCS-contracted group home employee must annually complete.
- Requires the Group Home Training Program webpage to include:
 - at least one training program that is provided free of charge and includes instruction on preventing human trafficking and internet crimes against children; and
 - educational materials and resources related to preventing human trafficking.

ACA

- Requires the ACA to distribute the monies appropriated for wearable technology research to applied research centers located in Arizona that specialize in wearable technology.
- Requires the ACA to distribute the monies appropriated for applied research centers in increments of up to \$250,000 within 30 days after the center notifies the ACA in writing that it has received matching funds.
- Requires an applied research center or institute that receives monies to annually submit an expenditure and performance report to the ACA which the ACA must transmit to JLBC and OSPB by February 1 each year.

Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind

- Requires a contractor chosen to provide supplemental early childhood listening and spoken language therapies to ensure that the services will be provided or overseen by a certified auditory verbal educator or therapist in a natural environment, clinical setting, educational setting or virtually.

DES

- Requires the \$32,300,000 appropriation for the DD reconciliation payment to be used to process the reconciliation payment associated with an operating cost shortfall for the contract year ending on September 30, 2024.
- Requires DES to distribute monies appropriated for the Education Workforce Innovation Initiative to qualifying programs led by Arizona-based organizations with supporting partnerships from a public university and local education agency and requires a proposal request to be made public by October 15, 2025.
- Requires a grantee to demonstrate a record of developing the leadership capacity of parents and caregivers and be in operation for at least four years.

- Prescribes requirements for a program to qualify for the Education Workforce Innovation Initiative.
- Requires DES to distribute all monies appropriated for a child development center to the Snowflake-Taylor child care development facility.
- Requires DES to submit a report for JLBC review before transferring any monies for adult protective services.
- Requires DES to submit a report for JLBC review before transferring any monies for Medicaid case management, state-only case management, cost effectiveness study client services and DD administration except for state match transfers from AHCCCS.
- Requires DES, by December 31, 2025, to provide a report on the employment classifications of parent caregivers enrolled in the program that are classified as W-2 employees or 1099 contractors to the Legislature and Director of JLBC.
- Requires DES, by December 31, 2025, to provide a report on the utilization of covered services under the DD Program by disability classification to the Legislature and Director of JLBC.

ADE

- Requires ADE to allocate monies for the one-time school meal grants to school districts and charter schools that participate in the National Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program under the National School Lunch and Child Nutrition Acts for grants to reduce or eliminate copayments that would be charged to eligible children for reduced-price meals.
- Stipulates that, if there are insufficient monies to cover the school meal grant awards for all eligible grantees, ADE must reduce each grant proportionately to cover all eligible grantees.
- Requires ADE to allocate at least \$500,000 of the \$2,500,000 appropriated for the Rural Arizona School Nurse Access Program for grants to increase the salaries of school nurses in rural school districts and charter schools and allows ADE to spend remaining monies on grants to rural districts and schools to hire new school nurses.
- Requires the \$500,000 FY 2026 appropriation for automated external defibrillator grants to be distributed to public schools that provide instruction in grades 9 through 12 and sponsor an athletic team or sports program.
- Requires ADE to prioritize schools with Free and Reduced-Price Lunch eligibility of 50 percent or more when selecting grant recipients for automated external defibrillators.

ADEQ

- Specifies that ADEQ's lump sum appropriation includes \$776,600 from the Water Quality Fee Fund to add two FTEs to process an increase in permit applications resulting from revised aquifer water quality standards if matching amounts of Aquifer Protection Permit Program fees are deposited in the Fund by the end of FY 2026.

DHS

- Requires DHS, by December 31, 2025, and June 30, 2026, to submit a report on the Health Care Directives Registry to the Governor, Legislature and Secretary of State.
- Requires DHS to use the monies appropriated for ibogaine clinical research grants to award a grant to conduct a certified clinical research study on the use of ibogaine for the treatment of neurological diseases.
- Prescribes eligibility requirements for an entity to receive an ibogaine clinical research grant.

Arizona State Lottery Commission

- Specifies that an amount equal to a percentage of total ticket sales as determined by contract is appropriated to pay online vendor fees and the amount is currently estimated to be \$17,747,100 or 1.079 percent of total ticket sales in FY 2026.

State Natural Resource Conservation Board

- Requires the State Natural Resource Conservation Board to use the monies appropriated for groundwater recharge facilities in FY 2026 to clean and restore facilities that provide flood control benefits and that are located in a groundwater basin designated as a subsequent active management area.

Arizona State Parks Board (ASPB)

- Stipulates that, if ASPB receives Land and Water Conservation Grant Program funding for capital projects in FY 2026, ASPB must report its revised expenditure plans to the Joint Committee on Capital Review and OSPB.

DPS

- Requires DPS, by October 1, 2025, to submit a report containing a list of district offices, including descriptions on the status of each office and a 10-year plan regarding maintenance and replacement needs of the offices, to the Governor, Legislature, OSPB and JLBC.

SOS

- Removes the authorization for the SOS to spend monies on legal expenses for conflict counsel.
- Prohibits the SOS from placing restrictions or conditions on federal monies relating to the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) allocated to counties.
- Requires Address Confidentiality Program Fund monies to be used for a deposit in the Address Confidentiality Program Fund.

- Prohibits the SOS from using public or private monies for outlined purposes.
- Prohibits monies appropriated to the SOS to support Arizona America250 from being used for voter registration or information technology.
- Requires the SOS, before expending funds for Arizona America250, to submit an expenditure plan for JLBC approval.
- Specifies that the non-HAVA grant monies expenditure authority line item includes all federal grants received by the SOS directly from the federal government and any federal grant monies distributed or allocated to the SOS by the Governor's Office or another state agency but does not include any monies received from federal HAVA grants.
- Requires the SOS, before spending excess monies, to submit an expenditure plan for review by JLBC.
- Requires the SOS, for the monies in the non-HAVA grant monies expenditure authority, to report quarterly to JLBC on the receipt of federal grant monies by grant source and all quarterly expenditures of non-HAVA federal grant monies by grant source.

Universities

- Specifies that the Arizona State University lump sum appropriation includes a \$400,000 allocation to the Center for American Institutions which has the sole authority to make hiring and class decisions, as specified.

ADVS

- Specifies that the \$1,225,000 appropriation to ADVS for the Pinal County veterans center must be distributed to a nonprofit located in Pinal County that provides services to veterans with an in-person facility and mobile outreach center and has previously received a grant from ADVS.

ADWR

- Specifies that the \$1,500,000 appropriation to ADWR for Colorado River legal expenses includes \$1,000,000 from the Long-Term Water Augmentation Fund for litigation against an upper-basin state, a party domiciled in an upper-basin state or the United States relating to Arizona's apportionment of Colorado River water or any other state right regarding the Colorado River.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2947, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for health care coverage and K-12 education and inadequately addresses priorities such as childcare affordability, veteran homelessness and public safety.

amusements; 2025-2026 (H.B. 2948) – VETOED

Makes the following session law changes relating to amusements necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 budget:

Authorizes, until January 1, 2027, the Arizona Department of Gaming (ADG) to allow gate approval for all tested horses within 60 days of the race in which the horse is entered and requires the ADG to amend the administrative code for such purposes. Continues to require the ADG, in FY 2026, to establish and collect, in addition to statutorily authorized deductions, a regulatory assessment from each commercial racing permittee in the amount of 0.5 percent of the amounts wagered, payable from pari-mutuel pools from in-state and out-of-state live and simulcast races.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2948, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for health care coverage and K-12 education and inadequately addresses priorities such as childcare affordability, veteran homelessness and public safety.

capital outlay; appropriations; 2025-2026 (H.B. 2949) – VETOED

Capital outlay expenditures account for \$25,727,100 of FY 2026 state budget expenditures.

Building Renewal – Appropriates \$50,283,500 in FY 2026 to the following state agencies from the specified funds for major maintenance and repair activities for state buildings:

Agency	Fund	Amount
Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA)	Capital Outlay Stabilization Fund (COSF)	\$19,000,000
Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR)	ADCRR Building Renewal Fund	\$5,864,300
Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT)	State Highway Fund (SHF)	\$22,990,400
	State Aviation Fund	\$394,900
Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD)	AZGFD Fund	\$1,815,700
Arizona State Lottery Commission	State Lottery Fund	\$218,200

Requires ADOA to allocate appropriated monies to state agencies for necessary building renewal and allows ADOA to use appropriated monies for building projects related to retrofitting facilities for space consolidation initiatives. Reduces the ADOA appropriation for building renewal by the difference between the amount appropriated and the balance in the COSF, if COSF monies are insufficient to fund the appropriation. ADCRR may not spend building renewal appropriations on personal services or overhead expenses related to managing funded projects.

Capital Projects – Appropriates \$63,042,000 in FY 2026 to the following state agencies from the specified funds for individual capital projects:

Agency	Purpose	Fund	Amount
ADCRR	Replace fire, life alarm and suppression system at the Yuma State Prison	state General Fund (state GF)	\$8,500,000
Arizona Exposition and State Fair Board	Capital improvements	Arizona Exposition and State Fair Fund	\$3,815,100
AZGFD	Dam maintenance	Capital Improvement Fund	\$150,000
AZGFD	Hatchery maintenance	Capital Improvement Fund	\$400,000
AZGFD	Property maintenance	Capital Improvement Fund	\$300,000
AZGFD	Dam repairs at Black Canyon and Fool Hollow Lakes	AZGFD Fund	\$6,850,000
AZGFD	Hatchery repairs	AZGFD Fund	\$4,700,000
Department of Health Services (DHS)	Arizona State Hospital (ASH) isolation valve installation	ASH Land Fund	\$160,000
DHS	ASH anti-ligature renovations	ASH Land Fund	\$695,000
DHS	ASH perimeter detection system replacement	ASH Land Fund	\$83,000
Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC)	Fire line booster pumps replacement	Criminal Justice Enhancement Fund	\$417,900
		ADJC Local Cost Sharing Fund	\$118,700
ADJC	Door and lock replacements at Adobe Mountain School	Criminal Justice Enhancement Fund	\$303,000
ADJC	Kitchen air unit replacements at Adobe Mountain School	Criminal Justice Enhancement Fund	\$641,000
Arizona State Parks Board (ASPB)	Capital improvements	State Parks Revenue Fund	\$3,633,300
Arizona Pioneers' Home	Capital improvements	Miners' Hospital for Miners with Disabilities Land Fund	\$470,400

Agency	Purpose	Fund	Amount
Arizona Pioneers' Home	Facility window and door replacements	Miners' Hospital for Miners with Disabilities Land Fund	\$1,515,000
Department of Public Safety (DPS)	Replace office buildings in Payson and Sanders	state GF	\$2,000,000
DPS	Upgrade electrical system at DPS headquarters in Phoenix	state GF	\$11,227,100
ADOT	Improvements to vehicle repair shop in Avondale	SHF	\$6,951,000
ADOT	Construct new maintenance offices in Little Antelope and Gray Mountain	SHF	\$6,861,000
ADOT	Renovate Grand Canyon Airport terminal	State Aviation Fund	\$850,300
Arizona Department of Veterans' Services	Replace HVAC at veterans' home in Tucson	state GF	\$2,400,000

Reverts the \$850,300 appropriation to the State Aviation Fund on June 30, 2026, if ADOT does not secure a Federal Aviation Administration grant to renovate the Grand Canyon Airport terminal.

ASPB – Requires, by September 1, 2025, the ASPB to submit a report to the Joint Committee on Capital Review (JCCR) delineating which projects approved by JCCR in July 2022 that ASPB plans to prioritize in FY 2026 and the proposed funding level for each project.

Statewide Highway Construction – Appropriates \$458,770,000 from the SHF in FY 2026 to ADOT to plan and construct state highways, acquire rights-of-way and provide for the cost of contracted field administration and construction project engineering and debt service payments on specified bonds. Appropriates balances and collections in the SHF that exceed the amount appropriated by the FY 2026 General Appropriations Act and Capital Outlay Budget Reconciliation Bill to ADOT for authorized purposes. Prescribes reporting and oversight requirements for outlined highway construction expenses, capital outlay information, outstanding debt principal balance and debt service payments.

ADOT – Appropriates \$204,500,000 from the state GF in FY 2026 to ADOT for the following highway construction projects:

Project	Amount
Construct an additional right-hand turn lane on northbound State Route (SR) 87 and SR 260 near Payson	\$3,400,000
Design improvements along SR 24	\$500,000
Design the repaving of Olga Frontage Road between mile posts 366 and 379	\$800,000
Design traffic interchange and connecting arterial roadways at SR 303 and 155th Avenue	\$3,400,000
Distribute to the City of Flagstaff to construct a traffic light signal at the intersection of Woody Mountain Road and U.S. Route 66	\$500,000
Distribute to the City of Glendale for the 75th Avenue reconstruction project	\$3,000,000
Distribute to the City of Show Low for the Woolford Road extension project	\$6,000,000
Distribute to Yuma County for bridge replacement project on Somerton Avenue between West County 10th and 11th Streets	\$1,300,000
Install traffic control systems along SR 389 near Colorado City	\$1,500,000
Restripe lanes along the interchange ramp from eastbound SR 24 to SR 202	\$50,000

Declares the Legislature's intent that the City of Surprise contribute \$3,000,000 and the Maricopa Association of Governments contribute at least \$3,000,000 from sources other than the state to design traffic interchange and connecting arterial roadways at SR 303 and 155th Avenue. Appropriations for highway construction projects must be distributed by November 1, 2025.

Airports – Appropriates \$44,340,700 from the State Aviation Fund in FY 2026 to ADOT for airport planning and development. Appropriates balances and collections in the State Aviation Fund that exceed the amount appropriated by the FY 2026 General Appropriations Act and Capital Outlay Budget Reconciliation Bill to ADOT for authorized purposes. Prescribes reporting requirements for aviation grant awards and distributions.

Adjustments – Modifies FYs 2026, 2027 and 2028 appropriations from the state GF to ADOT to design and construct additional vehicle lanes on the Interstate 10 (I-10) between SR 85 and Citrus Road. ADOT must procure bids that incorporate the A+B method to expedite construction and ensure completion of additional lanes on the I-10 in a timely manner. Expedites the construction of an overpass at Riggs Road and SR 347 as outlined.

Reverts \$22,666,333 to the State Parks Revenue Fund by removing the following appropriations from the State Parks Revenue Fund to the ASPB:

Purpose	FY	Amount
Dead Horse Ranch State Park amphitheater	2023	(\$210,000)
Red Rock renovation	2025	(\$4,000,000)
San Rafael renovation	2025	(\$1,500,000)
Southern construction services relocation	2023	(\$2,000,000)

Purpose	FY	Amount
Statewide campground improvements	-	(\$4,100,000)
Statewide sunshade structures	-	(\$2,233,333)
Statewide water conservation	2023	(\$1,339,000)
	2025	(\$1,339,000)
Yuma territorial prison renovation	2025	(\$5,945,000)

The Town of Patagonia may use the \$1,500,000 FY 2024 appropriation for McKeown Avenue reconstruction between Third Avenue West and SR 82. Exempts the \$1,800,000 FY 2022 appropriation to ADOT to replace vehicle fueling facilities in Flagstaff, Holbrook and Kingman from lapsing until June 30, 2027.

Miscellaneous – Prohibits any capital outlay appropriation from being spent on personal services or employee-related expenditures, except for services provided by the inmate construction program for correctional facilities. ADOA may spend up to five percent of all capital outlay appropriations, excluding distributions to nonstate agencies, for expenditures for project management of building renewal and capital projects and may not spend capital outlay appropriations on personal services or employee-related expenditures or maintenance contracts on building components and equipment without JCCR review. The following projects are deemed to have been favorably reviewed by JCCR: 1) \$1,200,000 for an Arizona Exposition and State Fair Board capital project; 2) \$2,458,000 for specified AZGFD capital projects; and 3) a total of \$1,409,000 for a transfer from two projects to fund a project shortfall to construct a roundabout at the intersection of SR 69 and SR 169 in Prescott Valley.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2949, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for health care coverage and K-12 education and inadequately addresses priorities such as childcare affordability, veteran homelessness and public safety.

commerce; 2025-2026 (H.B. 2950) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory changes relating to commerce necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Requires the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA), by December 1 of each year, to submit a report on the activities of each trade office operated by the ACA during the prior fiscal year to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. The ACA must establish and supervise the operations of full-time or part-time trade offices in other states and foreign countries subject to legislative appropriation for that specific purpose, rather than at the direction of the ACA Board of Directors.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2950, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for health care coverage and K-12 education and inadequately addresses priorities such as childcare affordability, veteran homelessness and public safety.

criminal justice; 2025-2026 ([H.B. 2951](#)) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to criminal justice necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Counties – Modifies the distribution formula for the State Aid for Juvenile Dependency Proceedings Fund and prohibits distributions from exceeding \$250,000 in any fiscal year for a single county.

Attorney General (AG) – Prohibits Anti-Racketeering Revolving Fund (Racketeering Fund) monies from being transferred to the state General Fund. The AG, or a county attorney, must obtain approval from a majority of the members of the House of Representatives (House) and Senate Judiciary Committees prior to filing any election-related legal actions, if the person establishes by prima facie evidence that the legal action is substantially motivated by a desire to deter the lawful exercise of a constitutional right.

Department of Public Safety (DPS) – Delays the repeal date of the Fentanyl Prosecution, Diversion and Testing Fund for two years, until July 1, 2027.

Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR) – Requires a county to first establish an intergovernmental agreement with ADCRR prior to filing a claim for reimbursement for certain prosecutions and requires ADCRR, upon receipt of a claim, to file the claim with the Arizona Department of Administration for payment.

Child and Family Representation Program (Program) – Establishes the Program within the Administrative Office of the Courts to ensure uniform legal representation by attorneys appointed to represent juveniles, parents and guardians in juvenile court proceedings. The Program must enhance the provision of legal representation for children and parents through outlined measures and must report to the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House and Governor's Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting on the measures taken. Beginning in 2030, the Legislature must review the Program's outcomes to determine whether the Program should be continued.

Erroneous Convictions – Beginning January 1, 2026, allows a claimant to bring an action in superior court seeking compensation from the state for an erroneous conviction and entitles such a person to compensation, as outlined, if certain criteria are met. Claimants may not receive compensation for any time that the claimant was serving a concurrent sentence for which the claimant was lawfully incarcerated. Claims must be brought within two years of the claimant being pardoned or the conviction being overturned or vacated or within two years of September 24, 2025, if the claimant has already been released from custody.

Convictions and arrests associated with a successful erroneous conviction claim must be expunged from all applicable state and federal systems and the expungement order must contain prescribed information and instructions. DPS must destroy any biological samples associated with the expunged offense. Outlines additional expungement requirements for ADCRR and arresting and prosecuting agencies. The victims of a crime that involves an erroneously convicted defendant are entitled to a specified amount of reimbursement for mental health services.

Allows the AG, or the court on its own motion, to make findings of fact on whether a city or county employee committed misconduct that resulted in the pardoning, reversal or vacating of a conviction. On such finding, the city or county must pay the compensation and reimbursement, rather than the state.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2951 and, this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for health care coverage and K-12 education and inadequately addresses priorities such as childcare affordability, veteran homelessness and public safety.

environment; 2025-2026 (H.B. 2952) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to the environment necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Arizona Department of Agriculture (AZDA) – Establishes the Agriculture and Water Innovation Fund Pilot Program (Pilot Program) and the Agriculture and Water Innovation Fund administered by the AZDA to provide grants and collect data for water-focused innovation in agriculture. The AZDA may grant Agriculture and Water Innovation Fund monies to qualified applicants to acquire or contract for implementing innovative technology that improves water use efficiency by improving soil health, subject to prescribed conditions.

The Director of the AZDA may lower existing fees in FY 2026 for any funds held in trust by the AZDA, subject to review of the AZDA Advisory Council.

Arizona State Land Department (ASLD) – Requires the ASLD Commissioner (Commissioner) to contract with qualified third parties to review applications submitted to the ASLD.

Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) – Extends the statutorily prescribed moratorium on levying and collecting an annual groundwater withdrawal fee for Arizona water banking purposes in the Pinal Active Management Area (AMA) from 2026 to 2027. Extends, from January 1, 2027, to January 1, 2028, the \$2.50 per acre-foot per year cap on the annual groundwater withdrawal fee for groundwater and irrigation efficiency projects in the Pinal AMA.

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) – Continues to authorize ADEQ to use up to \$6,531,000 in FY 2026 from the Underground Storage Tank Revolving Fund for administrative costs and remediating sewage discharge issues in Arizona border areas.

The Director of ADEQ must reduce fees in FY 2026 for vehicle emissions tests conducted in the Phoenix metropolitan area so that collected vehicle emissions testing fee revenues are five percent less than FY 2024 Phoenix metropolitan area collections. ADEQ is exempt from rulemaking requirements for the purposes of establishing reduced fees.

Fire Incident Management Fund (FIMF) – Extends the repeal date of the FIMF for two years, July 1, 2027.

Arizona Navigable Stream Adjudication Commission (ANSAC) – Continues to allow monies appropriated to ANSAC from the Arizona Water Banking Fund to be used for legal fees in FY 2026.

Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund – Prohibits the FY 2026 appropriation from the state General Fund to the Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund from exceeding \$15,000,000.

Nuclear Emergency Management Fund (NEMF) – Amends Laws 2025, Chapter 56 to increase the appropriations from the NEMF and the assessments on outlined entities from \$2,617,991 to \$2,667,991 in FY 2026 and from \$2,711,339 to \$2,761,339 in FY 2027.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2952, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for health care coverage and K-12 education and inadequately addresses priorities such as childcare affordability, veteran homelessness and public safety.

health care; 2025-2026 ([H.B. 2953](#)) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to health care necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Arizona Board of Nursing (AZBN) – Requires the AZBN to issue a provisional license or certificate to an advanced practice registered nurse, registered nurse or licensed practical nurse within five business days after the AZBN receives a complete application and fees if the applicant meets outlined criteria, including holding a current license in another state that is in good standing. If the applicant has a complaint or investigation pending or has had discipline imposed by any out-of-state licensing entity, the five-day timeframe does not apply and the AZBN may determine whether the applicant can safely practice nursing in Arizona.

The AZBN must acknowledge receipt of an application within five business days and provide the applicant with either: 1) a notice of provisional licensure or certification approval; or 2) a written explanation of the reason the applicant is not eligible for provisional licensure or certification. The AZBN must further investigate the application as necessary to determine whether the applicant may be licensed or certified in accordance with statute.

A provisional license or certificate is valid only in Arizona and may be: 1) converted into a regular, single-state license or certificate six months after the provisional license or certificate is issued; or 2) terminated within six months after issuance if the AZBN determines that there is a reasonable basis to restrict or terminate the provisional license or certificate. Any required fees for a license or certificate are waived U.S. Armed Forces veterans and spouses of U.S. Armed Forces active-duty members.

Establishes the Student Registered Nurse Anesthetist Clinical Rotation Program within the AZBN to expand the capacity of preceptor training programs for nurse anesthetist students. The AZBN must develop a grant program and application process for FY 2026 to distribute appropriated monies to licensed health care institutions to expand or develop clinical training placements for nurse anesthetist students, as prescribed.

Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) –For FYs 2026, 2027 and 2028, ADOA must administer a competitive grant program that provides a single company that licenses an interoperability software technology solution to support acute care for rural hospitals, health care providers and trauma centers with resources to further treatment and care coordination with a focus on reducing public and private health care costs and unnecessary transportation costs. Prescribes grant eligibility criteria and reporting requirements.

Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) – Removes, from AHCCCS-covered health and medical services, the exclusion of coverage for speech therapy and cochlear implants for members who are at least 21 years old.

Continues to allow AHCCCS to extend risk contingency rate settings for all managed care organizations (MCOs) and funding for all MCO administrative funding levels imposed in contract year 2010 for the contract year ending September 30, 2026. By December 31, 2026, AHCCCS must transfer any federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act monies to the counties, per the counties' proportional share of the state's contribution.

Beginning January 1, 2026, requires AHCCCS to establish outlined data matching agreements with the Arizona Department of Revenue, Department of Health Services (DHS) and Department of Economic Security for review of information concerning member eligibility. Prohibits AHCCCS from: 1) accepting self-attestation of certain eligibility information without independent verification before enrollment, unless required by federal law; 2) requesting authority to waive or decline to periodically check any available income-related data sources to verify eligibility; and 3) accepting eligibility determinations from a federally-facilitated exchange established in accordance with federal law. AHCCCS may: 1) accept assessments from a federally-facilitated exchange if AHCCCS independently verifies eligibility and makes eligibility determinations; 2) execute a memorandum of understanding with any other state department for statutorily required information; and 3) contract with independent vendors to provide additional data for information concerning member eligibility. By April 1, 2026, AHCCCS must submit to the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (U.S. CMS) any waiver request necessary to implement the enrollment eligibility review requirements.

Requires AHCCCS to request approval from U.S. CMS for a section 1115 wavier to allow the elimination of mandatory hospital presumptive eligibility and restrict presumptive eligibility determinations to children and pregnant women. If the section 1115 waiver is denied, AHCCCS must resubmit subsequent requests for approval within 12 months after each denial. Prescribes requirements for AHCCCS and qualified hospitals when making a presumptive eligibility determination.

Arizona Long-Term Care System (ALTCS) Contributions – Outlines individual county contributions for ALTCS. Directs the State Treasurer to withhold monies as prescribed to fulfill county contribution obligations and deposit any paid or withheld county contributions into the ALTCS Fund. Continues to authorize the State Treasurer to collect additional monies from counties if the aggregate cost for ALTCS exceeds the amount specified in the FY 2026 General Appropriations Act. The counties' share of the state's contribution must comply with federal maintenance of effort requirements. Requires the Director of AHCCCS to notify the State Treasurer of the counties' share of the state's contribution and report the amount to the Director of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

County Acute Care – Outlines individual county contributions for county acute care. Directs the State Treasurer to withhold monies as prescribed to fulfill county contribution obligations for acute care and deposit any paid or withheld county contributions into the AHCCCS and ALTCS Funds. Continues to require that 1/12th of the prescribed county acute care contributions be made to the State Treasurer by the fifth day of each month. Upon request of the Director of AHCCCS, the State Treasurer must require up to three months' payment in advance. Allows the Director of AHCCCS to instruct the State Treasurer to reduce or return county acute care payments as outlined, if the payments exceed costs incurred by AHCCCS.

Court-Ordered Stabilization of Impaired Persons – Establishes, until January 1, 2029, a process for the court-ordered stabilization treatment of persons who are impaired due to intoxication, withdrawal or substance induced symptoms and outlines court-ordered stabilization procedures and requirements. Until December 31, 2027, the medical director of an evaluation agency in a county with a population between 1,000,000 and 1,500,000 persons may file a petition for court-ordered stabilization, if the director determines that the proposed patient is an impaired person as prescribed. The petition for court-ordered stabilization must be accompanied by an affidavit from the medical director detailing specified information.

The court must appoint counsel for an impaired person at the time of issuing an order for stabilization and the impaired person's attorney must: 1) confer with the impaired person within 24 hours after appointment; and 2) inform the impaired person of the right to a hearing to determine whether the person should be involuntarily detained for stabilization and the right to be represented at the hearing by an attorney. A court-order for stabilization may not exceed a stabilization period of five calendar days after the date that the impaired person is involuntarily admitted to the evaluation agency. An impaired person must be offered treatment each day that the person is detained but may not be treated for impairment without the impaired person's express consent, except as outlined for emergency situations.

The attorney for the county in which a petition for court-ordered stabilization is initiated must represent the person who filed the petition or the evaluation agency in any related judicial proceedings. An impaired person may not be charged for court-ordered stabilization services.

By January 1, 2028, an eligible county must submit a court-ordered stabilization report to the Governor, Legislature and Secretary of State (SOS). The Health and Human Services Committees must review the report and determine whether the court-ordered stabilization process should be continued, modified or discontinued.

Department of Health Services (DHS) – Directs DHS to distribute monies appropriated in the FY 2026 General Appropriations Act to a qualifying nonprofit organization to implement a public education campaign that increases awareness of Alzheimer's disease and dementia in rural and underserved urban areas in Arizona. DHS must submit a report on the impact of the public awareness campaign to the Governor, Legislature and SOS by November 1, 2026.

Extends the Collaborative Care Uptake Fund for two years, until July 1, 2027.

Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) Payments – Outlines DSH payment amounts for qualifying nonstate-operated public hospitals, private qualifying DSHs and the Arizona State Hospital (ASH). Outlines notification, payment distribution and deposit requirements for

AHCCCS after filing claims with the federal government and receiving federal financial participation based on certified amounts. By March 31, 2026, ASH must provide specified forms for qualifying DSH expenditures to AHCCCS. Continues to require AHCCCS to assist ASH in determining the amount of qualifying DSH expenditures and maintains reporting requirements and distribution procedures for federal matching funds for FY 2026.

Miscellaneous – Continues to exclude county contributions for costs of inpatient and in-custody competency restoration treatment and Proposition 204 administrative costs from county expenditure limitations.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2953, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for health care coverage and K-12 education and inadequately addresses priorities such as childcare affordability, veteran homelessness and public safety.

higher education; 2025-2026 (H.B. 2954) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to higher education necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Arizona Teachers Academy (Academy) – Authorizes a degree-granting private postsecondary educational institution in Arizona (private postsecondary institution) that offers postbaccalaureate teacher preparation programs that lead to teacher certification to participate in the Academy and receive Academy Fund monies. Caps the scholarship reimbursement that a private postsecondary institution may provide a student at the remainder of the average in-state tuition and fees charged by public universities, minus all other financial aid.

Community College District (CCD) Funding – Funds the FY 2026 operating state aid for CCDs and CCD science, technology, engineering and mathematics and workforce development programs as specified in the FY 2026 General Appropriations Act.

Lease-to-Own and Bond Transactions – Increases, from \$800,000,000 to \$1,125,000,000, the maximum amount for lease-to-own and bond transactions that may be entered into by the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) and modifies lease-to-own and bond agreement approval requirements. ABOR must submit the scope, purpose and estimated cost of each new project that will be financed by lease-to-own and bond transactions to the Joint Committee on Capital Review (JCCR) for review and approval. The JCCR must hear and approve each submission as outlined and ABOR may not distribute monies for a project until approved by a majority vote of the JCCR.

Military and Law Enforcement Officer Tuition Scholarships – Continues the Spouses and Dependents of Law Enforcement Officers Tuition Scholarship Fund (LEO Scholarship Fund) for two years, until July 1, 2027, and narrows the eligibility requirements for a LEO Scholarship Fund scholarship. Retroactive to July 1, 2025, requires any unexpended and unencumbered monies remaining in the Spouses of Military Veterans Tuition Scholarship Fund (Military Scholarship Fund) after scholarships are awarded to all eligible applicants to be deposited in the Academy Fund. In FYs 2026 and 2027, before depositing the Military Scholarship Fund monies in the Academy Fund, ABOR must first deposit \$2,000,000 in the LEO Scholarship Fund.

Resident Undergraduate Student Tuition Rates – Requires ABOR, for FYs 2026, 2027 and 2028, to fix each public university's resident undergraduate tuition rate at a rate that is 2.5 percent lower than the tuition rates established for FY 2025. ABOR and each public university may not require a student to pay any charge, including tuition surcharges or fees, as a result of the reduced tuition rates for resident undergraduate students.

Students Not Lawfully Present in the United States – Requires ABOR to prohibit each public university from using public or private monies to subsidize, offset, reduce or mitigate the tuition and fees charged to any student who is: 1) present in the United States without authorization under federal law; 2) a foreign national who has been paroled into the United States by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security; or 3) a foreign national who has applied, or intends to apply, for asylum in the United States if the application has not yet been approved.

University Funding – Continues, for FY 2026, to allow the Legislature to appropriate less than a two-to-one match to student registration fees assessed by the Arizona Financial Aid Trust Fund.

Miscellaneous – Retroactive to July 1, 2025, requires the State Treasurer, on notice from ABOR, to invest and divest monies in the Arizona Veterinary Loan Assistance Fund and Military Scholarship Fund and credit monies earned from investment to the respective Fund.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2954, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for health care coverage and K-12 education and inadequately addresses priorities such as childcare affordability, veteran homelessness and public safety.

human services; 2025-2026 ([H.B. 2955](#)) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to human services necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Extended Foster Care Comprehensive Service Model (Model) – Requires the Department of Child Safety (DCS) to prepare a scope of work for a Model that includes supportive services and case management provided by contracted community providers for young adults between 17.5 and 20 years old who participate in the Extended Foster Care Program. Establishes the Extended Foster Care Success Coaching Program, the Extended Foster Care Quality Review Committee and the Model Fund, administered by DCS, and consisting of legislative appropriations.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) – Requires the Department of Economic Security (DES) to determine or evaluate SNAP eligibility by reviewing information provided by specified state agencies and federal databases relating to potential earnings, employment status and residency. On a least a quarterly basis, DES must post on its public website the aggregated amounts obtained from noncompliance and fraud investigations related to SNAP, excluding confidential and personally identifiable information. If DES receives information that indicates a change in circumstance that may affect an individual's SNAP eligibility, DES must review the individual's case. Able-bodied adults under 60 years old who receive SNAP benefits

must participate in a mandatory employment and training program, unless the recipient meets outlined criteria. DES may not seek, apply for, accept or renew any work requirement waiver under SNAP for able-bodied adults without dependents, unless required by federal law or authorized by state law.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) – Continues to require DES in FY 2026 to screen and test each adult who is eligible to receive TANF cash benefits and who DES has reasonable cause to believe engages in the illegal use of controlled substances. Any TANF recipient who tests positive for an unprescribed controlled substance is ineligible to receive TANF benefits for one year.

Establishes the TANF Fund, the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) and the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) Fund which are continuously appropriated and administered by DES. Before making an expenditure, DES must deposit all federal monies received: 1) under the federal TANF Grant in the TANF Fund; and 2) under the Child Care and Development Block Grant and WIOA in the respective fund.

Miscellaneous – Allows the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services to transfer up to 15 percent of the Veterans' Donations Fund balance from the preceding fiscal year to the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund at the beginning of each fiscal year. Removes DCS from the list of state agencies exempt from State Motor Vehicle Fleet participation.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2955, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for health care coverage and K-12 education and inadequately addresses priorities such as childcare affordability, veteran homelessness and public safety.

K-12 education; 2025-2026 ([H.B. 2956](#)) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to K-12 education necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Basic State Aid – Increases the base level in FY 2026 from \$5,013 to \$5,113.26 per pupil. Increases transportation support levels and charter additional assistance amounts by two percent for standard inflation. Updates the TY 2025 qualifying tax rates to reflect annual truth-in-taxation rate adjustments.

Annual Teacher Retention Study and Report – Requires the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) to conduct an annual comprehensive study to determine the retention rate of teachers in Arizona school districts and charter schools. ADE must analyze public job postings to compile information on teacher retention, turnover and vacancies and the State Board of Education (SBE) and the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools must provide any requested information to ADE for the study. The SBE may access any data and information ADE collects for the study. ADE must: 1) develop and maintain an interactive dashboard on its public website containing the study results, recommendations and data; and 2) by December 31, 2025, and each year thereafter, submit study results and recommendations.

Ninth Grade On-Track Grant Program (Grant Program) – Establishes the Grant Program and Grant Program Fund, administered by ADE, to provide grant awards to participating school districts and charter schools for the establishment and expansion of specified programs, opportunities and strategies that help grade nine students complete sufficient credits to be on-track to graduate in four years. Grants must be awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis in an amount equal to \$150 for each enrolled student. Caps the total number of grade nine students who may be funded by the Grant Program at 6,650 students. Outlines Grant Program application procedures and administrative and compliance requirements.

Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) Requirements – Requires each public school that provides instruction to students in any of grades 9 through 12 and sponsors an athletic team or sports program to provide an AED at each school campus until August 1, 2026, and beginning August 1, 2026: 1) provide an AED at each school campus and school-sponsored event; and 2) ensure that each provided AED meets outlined requirements. A public school may accept gifts, grants and other donations to comply with AED requirements.

School Financial Transparency Portal (Portal) – Transfers Portal oversight and administrative requirements from the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) to ADE.

Miscellaneous – Allows ADE to use Failing Schools Tutoring Fund monies in FY 2026 for specified school improvements and requires ADE to report proposed expenditures by September 1, 2025, as outlined. Retroactive to July 1, 2025, caps a Continuing High School and Workforce Training Program school's FY 2026 total projected full-time enrollment at 130, until July 1, 2027.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2956, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for health care coverage and K-12 education and inadequately addresses priorities such as childcare affordability, veteran homelessness and public safety.

local government; 2025-2026 (H.B. 2957) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to local governments necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Allows a county board of supervisors (county BOS) to establish, maintain and operate facilities that provide veterans' services.

Continues to allow counties with a population of fewer than 250,000 persons to use up to \$1,250,000 of any source of county revenue to meet any county fiscal obligation in FY 2026. By October 1, 2025, a county using the flexible authority must report to the Director of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee: 1) whether the county used a revenue source for purposes other than outlined to meet a county fiscal obligation; and 2) the specific source and amount of revenues that the county intends to use in FY 2026.

Requires the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) to perform procedural reviews of county treasurers' offices as outlined and provide written results of the review to the county BOS, county treasurer and Joint Legislative Audit Committee (JLAC). A county treasurer's office that is subject

to review must notify the OAG in writing whether the office: 1) agrees or disagrees with the findings of the review; and 2) will implement, modify or refuse the recommendations. Outlines follow up, review and reporting requirements. The county treasurer must participate in any hearing scheduled during the review period.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2957, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for health care coverage and K-12 education and inadequately addresses priorities such as childcare affordability, veteran homelessness and public safety.

state buildings; management; 2025-2026 (H.B. 2958) – VETOED

Makes the following session law change relating to the management of state buildings necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Continues to set the Capital Outlay Stabilization Fund square-footage rental rates for state-owned buildings at \$17.87 for office space and \$6.43 for storage space in FY 2026.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2958, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for health care coverage and K-12 education and inadequately addresses priorities such as childcare affordability, veteran homelessness and public safety.

revenue; 2025-2026 (H.B. 2959) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to revenue necessary to implement the FY 2026 state budget:

Includes the Maricopa County one-half cent transportation excise tax in the assessment of fees for the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) Integrated Tax System Modernization Project. Declares the Legislature's intent for FY 2026 that the share of fees for the ADOR Integrated Tax System Modernization Project be determined as outlined and that the assessment and transfers may not exceed: 1) \$6,558,800 in total fees assessed on government entities; 2) \$795,300 from additional education transaction privilege tax revenues; and 3) \$177,200 in marijuana excise tax revenues.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2959, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for health care coverage and K-12 education and inadequately addresses priorities such as childcare affordability, veteran homelessness and public safety.

state budget implementation; 2025-2026 (H.B. 2960) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory and session law changes necessary to implement the FY 2026 state budget:

Continues to: 1) suspend the Budget Stabilization Fund (BSF) cap of 10 percent of state General Fund (state GF) revenue for FY 2026; 2) state that the Legislature is not required to

appropriate monies to or transfer monies from the BSF in FYs 2026 through 2028; and 3) prohibit the State Treasurer from transferring any surplus monies from the BSF to the state GF in FY 2026. Retroactive to July 1, 2025, continues to require any unrestricted federal monies received by Arizona in FY 2026 to be deposited into the state GF to pay essential government services.

Requires the Director of the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) to consult with and accommodate the policies of the budget units of the legislative branch in implementing ADOA's personnel and financial data management system and applications.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2960, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for health care coverage and K-12 education and inadequately addresses priorities such as childcare affordability, veteran homelessness and public safety.

taxation; omnibus; 2025-2026 ([H.B. 2961](#)) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to taxation necessary to implement the FY 2026 state budget:

Income Tax – Extends, until June 30, 2029, and retroactive to June 29, 2024, the authorized use of Public School Extracurricular Activity Fees Tax Credit contributions for: 1) the acquisition of outlined capital items; 2) community school meal programs; 3) student consumable health care supplies; and 4) playground equipment and shade structures for playground equipment. Increases, for taxable years beginning January 1, 2026, the individual income tax subtraction for unreimbursed adoption expenses from \$3,000 to: 1) \$5,000 for a single individual or head of household; or 2) \$10,000 for a married couple.

Property Tax – Exempts a veteran with a service- or nonservice-connected disability from the requirement for the veteran's property to be valued below the statutory property assessment limit to qualify for a property tax exemption. The property of a veteran with a service-connected disability whose U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) disability rating is 100 percent is exempt from the full amount of property tax. The surviving spouse of a veteran with a service-connected disability whose VA disability rating is 100 percent may continue to claim the full property tax exemption as long as the spouse does not remarry and the property is used as the spouse's primary residence. Excludes payments from any veterans pensions, rather than only veterans disability pensions, from the calculation of a veteran's income for the purpose of the exemption eligibility income cap.

Effective January 1, 2026, increases the business personal property tax exemption to \$500,000.

Transaction Privilege Tax (TPT) – Expands the TPT deduction and use tax exemption relating to pipes to include pipes or valves that are four inches in diameter or larger that are used to transport wastewater.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2961, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for health care coverage and K-12 education and inadequately addresses priorities such as childcare affordability, veteran homelessness and public safety.

general appropriations; FY2026 ([H.B. 2962](#)) – VETOED

The FY 2026 budget includes spending in the total amount of \$17 billion and a cash balance of \$753.7 million. The vetoed budget includes ongoing and one-time revenues of \$17.76 billion.

The budget includes FY 2026 (unless otherwise stated) one-time additional state General Fund (state GF) spending as follows:

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) – School Facilities Division – Building Renewal Funding	183.3
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) – Enhanced Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentage (FMAP) Adjustments	(6.0)
Department of Child Safety – Enhanced FMAP Adjustments – FY 2025	9.0
Department of Economic Security (DES) – Formula	32.3
DES – Enhanced FMAP Adjustments – FY 2025	70.1
DES – Enhanced FMAP Adjustments	(8.4)
DES – Developmental Disabilities (DD) Supplemental – FY 2025	(76.1)
Arizona Department of Education (ADE) – Formula Supplemental – FY 2025	33.6
ADE – Formula Supplemental – Qasimyar Settlement – FY 2025	8.4
ADE – Federal Funds Backfill Supplemental – FY 2025	2.0
Department of Forestry and Fire Management – Fire Expenses – FY 2025	11.2
Department of Health Services (DHS) – Arizona State Hospital Operating Costs – Other Fund (OF)	3.3
Secretary of State (SOS) – Congressional District Seven Special Election – FY 2025	7.5
Arizona Department of Veterans' Services (ADVS) – State Home for Veterans Trust Fund Deposit – Operating Costs – FY 2025	1.0
State Employee Health Insurance Funding	140.0

**Figures are rounded.*

The budget also includes ongoing additional state GF spending as follows:

	State GF \$ (in Millions)*
AHCCCS – Prescription Drug Rebate Fund Ongoing Shift	(150.0)
DES – Formula Adjustments	160.0
DES – Community-Based Services for DD Higher Costs	14.8
Administrative Adjustments	(5.1)
Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) – Rural Broadband Accelerated Match Fund Transfer – FY 2025	(23.6)

**Figures are rounded.*

Major Footnote Changes

The budget includes the following major footnote additions, deletions and modifications. This list does not include footnotes pertaining to one-time reports, appropriations or footnote changes conforming to enacted policy.

ADOA

- Requires ADOA, by March 31, 2026, to submit a report to the Director of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) and the Governor's Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) on the amount that the Maricopa County Special Health Care District has agreed to send to ADOA for deposit in the state GF in FY 2026.
- Specifies that the report must include the reason for the change, if the amount that the Maricopa County Special Health Care District has agreed to send to ADOA for deposit in FY 2026 has changed from the amount sent in FY 2025.

AHCCCS

- Requires AHCCCS, by March 31, 2026, to submit a report to the Director of JLBC and OSPB on the amount of directed payments that the Maricopa County Special Health Care District will receive from the Safety Net Services Initiative in FY 2026, disaggregated by state and federal match.

DES

- Requires the \$32,300,000 appropriation for the DD reconciliation payment to be used to process the reconciliation payment associated with an operating cost shortfall for the contract year ending on September 30, 2024.

Arizona Department of Education (ADE)

- Requires ADE to allocate the appropriation for state aid supplement to school districts and charter schools on a pro rata basis using the weighted student count for the fiscal year.

Arizona State Lottery Commission

- Specifies that an amount equal to a percentage of total ticket sales as determined by contract is appropriated to pay online vendor fees and the amount is currently estimated to be \$17,747,100 or 1.079 percent of total ticket sales in FY 2026.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2962, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for first responder pay raises, childcare, infrastructure, K-12 schools and higher education and removes efforts to combat veteran homelessness.

amusements; FY2026 (H.B. 2963) – VETOED

Makes the following session law changes relating to amusements necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 budget:

Authorizes, until January 1, 2027, the Arizona Department of Gaming (ADG) to allow gate approval for all tested horses within 60 days of the race in which the horse is entered and requires the ADG to amend the administrative code for such purposes. Continues to require the ADG, in FY 2026, to establish and collect, in addition to the statutorily authorized deductions, a regulatory assessment from each commercial racing permittee in the amount of 0.5 percent of the amounts wagered, payable from pari-mutuel pools from in-state and out-of-state live and simulcast races.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2963, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for first responder pay raises, childcare, infrastructure, K-12 schools and higher education and removes efforts to combat veteran homelessness.

capital outlay; appropriations; FY2026 (H.B. 2964) – VETOED

Capital outlay expenditures account for \$0 of FY 2026 state budget expenditures.

Building Renewal – Appropriates \$49,438,300 in FY 2026 to the following state agencies from the specified funds for major maintenance and repair activities for state buildings:

Agency	Fund	Amount
Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA)	Capital Outlay Stabilization Fund (COSF)	\$19,000,000
Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR)	ADCRR Building Renewal Fund	\$5,864,300
Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT)	State Highway Fund (SHF)	\$22,145,300
	State Aviation Fund	\$394,800
Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD)	AZGFD Fund	\$1,815,700
Arizona State Lottery Commission	State Lottery Fund	\$218,200

Requires ADOA to allocate appropriated monies to state agencies for necessary building renewal and allows ADOA to use appropriated monies for building projects related to retrofitting facilities for space consolidation initiatives. Reduces the ADOA appropriation for building renewal by the difference between the amount appropriated and the balance in the COSF, if COSF monies are insufficient to fund the appropriation. ADCRR may not spend building renewal appropriations on personal services or overhead expenses related to managing funded projects.

Capital Projects – Requires, by September 1, 2025, the Arizona State Parks Board (ASPB) to submit a report to the Joint Committee on Capital Review (JCCR) delineating which projects approved by JCCR in July 2022 that ASPB plans to prioritize in FY 2026 and the proposed funding level for each project.

Statewide Highway Construction – Appropriates \$458,770,000 from the SHF in FY 2026 to ADOT to plan and construct state highways, acquire rights-of-way and provide for the cost of contracted field administration and construction project engineering and debt service payments on specified bonds. Appropriates balances and collections in the SHF that exceed the amount appropriated by the FY 2026 General Appropriations Act and Capital Outlay Budget Reconciliation Bill to ADOT for authorized purposes. Prescribes reporting and oversight requirements for outlined highway construction expenses, capital outlay information, outstanding debt principal balance and debt service payments.

Airports – Appropriates \$44,340,700 from the State Aviation Fund in FY 2026 to ADOT for airport planning and development. Appropriates balances and collections in the State Aviation Fund that exceed the amount appropriated by the FY 2026 General Appropriations Act and Capital Outlay Budget Reconciliation Bill to ADOT for authorized purposes. Prescribes reporting requirements for aviation grant awards and distributions.

Adjustments – Reverts \$22,666,333 to the State Parks Revenue Fund by removing the following amounts appropriated from the State Parks Revenue Fund to the ASPB:

Purpose	Amount
Dead Horse Ranch state park amphitheater	(\$210,000)
Red Rock renovation	(\$4,000,000)
San Rafael renovation	(\$1,500,000)
Southern construction services relocation	(\$2,000,000)
Statewide campground improvements	(\$4,100,000)
Statewide sunshade structures	(\$2,233,333)
Statewide water conservation	(\$1,339,000)
	(\$1,339,000)
Yuma territorial prison renovation	(\$5,945,000)

Miscellaneous – Prohibits any FY 2026 capital outlay appropriation from being spent on personal services or employee-related expenditures, except for services provided by the inmate construction program for correctional facilities.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2964, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for first responder pay raises, childcare, infrastructure, K-12 schools and higher education and removes efforts to combat veteran homelessness.

environment; FY2026 (H.B. 2965) – VETOED

Makes the following session law changes relating to the environment necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) – Continues to authorize ADEQ to use up to \$6,531,000 in FY 2026 from the Underground Storage Tank Revolving Fund for administrative costs and remediating sewage discharge issues Arizona border areas.

The Director of ADEQ must reduce fees in FY 2026 for vehicle emissions tests conducted in the Phoenix metropolitan area so that collected vehicle emissions testing fee revenues are five percent less than FY 2024 Phoenix metropolitan area collections. ADEQ is exempt from rulemaking requirements until July 1, 2026, for the purpose of establishing reduced fees.

Prohibits the FY 2026 appropriation from the state General Fund to the Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund from exceeding \$15,000,000.

Arizona Department of Agriculture (AZDA) – Allows the Director of the AZDA to lower existing fees in FY 2026 for any funds held in trust by the AZDA, subject to review of the AZDA Advisory Council. The AZDA must adopt emergency rules through July 1, 2026, in conjunction with the industry, to modify fees deposited in the Dangerous Plants, Pests and Diseases Trust Fund, subject to review by the AZDA Advisory Council.

Arizona Water Protection Fund – Continues to authorize the Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission to grant up to \$336,000 of unobligated monies in the Arizona Water Protection Fund to the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) to pay for ADWR's administrative costs in FY 2026.

Arizona Navigable Stream Adjudication Commission (ANSAC) – Continues to allow monies appropriated to ANSAC from the Arizona Water Banking Fund to be used for legal fees in FY 2026.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2965, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for first responder pay raises, childcare, infrastructure, K-12 schools and higher education and removes efforts to combat veteran homelessness.

health care; FY2026 (H.B. 2966) – VETOED

Makes the following session law changes relating to health care necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) – Continues to allow AHCCCS to extend risk contingency rate settings for all managed care organizations (MCOs) and funding for all MCO administrative funding levels imposed in contract year 2010 for the contract year ending September 30, 2026. By December 31, 2026, AHCCCS must transfer any federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act monies to the counties, per the counties' proportional share of the state's contribution.

Arizona Long-Term Care System (ALTCS) Contributions – Outlines individual county contributions for ALTCS. Directs the State Treasurer to withhold monies as prescribed to fulfill county contribution obligations and deposit any paid or withheld county contributions into the ALTCS Fund. Continues to authorize the State Treasurer to collect additional monies from counties if the aggregate cost for ALTCS exceeds the amount specified in the FY 2026 General Appropriations Act. The counties' share of the state's contribution must comply with federal maintenance of effort requirements. Requires the Director of AHCCCS to notify the State Treasurer of the counties' share of the state's contribution and report the amount to the Director of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

County Acute Care – Outlines individual county contributions for county acute care. Directs the State Treasurer to withhold monies as prescribed to fulfill county contribution obligations for acute care and deposit any paid or withheld county contributions into the AHCCCS and ALTCS Funds. Continues to require that 1/12th of the prescribed county acute care contributions be made to the State Treasurer by the fifth day of each month. Upon request of the Director of AHCCCS, the State Treasurer must require up to three months' payment in advance. Allows the Director of AHCCCS to instruct the State Treasurer to reduce or return county acute care payments as outlined, if the payments exceed costs incurred by AHCCCS.

Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) Payments – Outlines DSH payment amounts for qualifying nonstate-operated public hospitals, qualifying private DSHs and the Arizona State Hospital (ASH). Outlines notification, payment distribution and deposit requirements for AHCCCS after filing claims with the federal government and receiving federal financial participation based on certified amounts. By March 31, 2026, ASH must provide specified forms for qualifying DSH expenditures to AHCCCS. Continues to require AHCCCS to assist ASH in determining the amount of qualifying DSH expenditures and maintains reporting requirements and distribution procedures for federal matching funds for FY 2026.

Miscellaneous – Continues to exclude county contributions for costs of inpatient and in-custody competency restoration treatment and Proposition 204 administrative costs from county expenditure limitations.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2966, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for first responder pay raises, childcare, infrastructure, K-12 schools and higher education and removes efforts to combat veteran homelessness.

higher education; FY2026 ([H.B. 2967](#)) – VETOED

Makes the following session law changes relating to higher education necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Funds the FY 2026 operating state aid for community college districts (CCDs) and CCD science, technology, engineering and mathematics and workforce programs as specified in the FY 2026 General Appropriations Act.

Continues, for FY 2026, to allow the Legislature to appropriate less than a two-to-one match to student registration fees assessed by the Arizona Financial Aid Trust Fund.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2967, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for first responder pay raises, childcare, infrastructure, K-12 schools and higher education and removes efforts to combat veteran homelessness.

human services; FY2026 (H.B. 2968) – VETOED

Makes the following session law changes relating to human services necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Continues to require the Department of Economic Security (DES) in FY 2026 to screen and test each adult who is eligible to receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) cash benefits and who DES has reasonable cause to believe engages in the illegal use of controlled substances. Any TANF recipient who tests positive for an unprescribed controlled substance is ineligible to receive TANF benefits for one year.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2968, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for first responder pay raises, childcare, infrastructure, K-12 schools and higher education and removes efforts to combat veteran homelessness.

K-12 education; FY2026 (H.B. 2969) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to K-12 education necessary to implement the FY 2026 state budget:

Increases the base level in FY 2026 from \$5,013 to \$5,113.26 per pupil. Increases transportation support levels and charter additional assistance amounts by two percent for standard inflation. Updates the TY 2025 qualifying tax rates to reflect annual truth-in-taxation rate adjustments.

Authorizes the Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (ASDB) to use monies appropriated from the Telecommunication Fund for the Deaf for ASDB's educational and operational costs in FY 2026.

Allows the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) to use Failing Schools Tutoring Fund monies in FY 2026 for specified school improvements and requires ADE to report the proposed expenditures by September 1, 2025, as outlined.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2969, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for first responder pay raises, childcare, infrastructure, K-12 schools and higher education and removes efforts to combat veteran homelessness.

local government; FY2026 (H.B. 2970) – VETOED

Makes the following session law changes relating to local governments necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Continues to allow counties with a population of fewer than 250,000 persons to use up to \$1,250,000 of any source of county revenue to meet any county fiscal obligation in FY 2026. By October 1, 2025, a county using the flexible authority must report to the Director of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee: 1) whether the county used a revenue source for purposes other than outlined to meet a county fiscal obligation; and 2) the specific source and amount of revenues that the county intends to use in FY 2026.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2970, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for first responder pay raises, childcare, infrastructure, K-12 schools and higher education and removes efforts to combat veteran homelessness.

state buildings; management; FY2026 (H.B. 2971) – VETOED

Makes the following session law change relating to the management of state buildings necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 state budget:

Continues to set the Capital Outlay Stabilization Fund square-footage rental rates for state-owned buildings at \$17.87 for office space and \$6.43 for storage space in FY 2026.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2971, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for first responder pay raises, childcare, infrastructure, K-12 schools and higher education and removes efforts to combat veteran homelessness.

revenue; FY2026 (H.B. 2972) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to revenue necessary to implement the FY 2026 state budget:

Includes the Maricopa County one-half cent transportation excise tax in the assessment of fees for the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) Integrated Tax System Modernization Project. Declares the Legislature's intent for FY 2026 that the share of fees for the ADOR Integrated Tax System Modernization Project be determined as outlined and that the assessment and transfers may not exceed: 1) \$6,558,800 in total fees assessed on government entities; 2) \$795,300 from additional education transaction privilege tax revenues; and 3) \$177,200 in marijuana excise tax revenues.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2972, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for first responder pay raises, childcare, infrastructure, K-12 schools and higher education and removes efforts to combat veteran homelessness.

state budget implementation; FY2026 ([H.B. 2973](#)) – VETOED

Makes the following session law changes necessary to implement the FY 2026 state budget:

Continues, retroactive to July 1, 2025, to require any unrestricted federal monies received by Arizona in FY 2026 to be deposited into the state General Fund (state GF) to pay essential government services.

Continues to: 1) suspend the Budget Stabilization Fund (BSF) cap of 10 percent of state GF revenue for FY 2026; 2) state that the Legislature is not required to appropriate monies to or transfer monies from the BSF in FYs 2026 through 2028; and 3) prohibit the State Treasurer from transferring any surplus monies from the BSF to the state GF in FY 2026.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2973, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for health care coverage and K-12 education and inadequately addresses priorities such as childcare affordability, veteran homelessness and public safety.

transportation; FY2026 ([H.B. 2974](#)) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory changes relating to transportation necessary to reconcile the FY 2026 budget:

Requires, by July 31 of each year, the Arizona Department of Transportation to report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee on the progress in improving Motor Vehicle Division wait times and vehicle registration renewal by mail turnaround times.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2974, and this version of the FY 2026 budget as a whole, does not provide adequate funding for first responder pay raises, childcare, infrastructure, K-12 schools and higher education and removes efforts to combat veteran homelessness.

Education Committee

Senator David C. Farnsworth, Chairperson



Mason Holler, Research Analyst

Sam Rosenberg, Assistant Research Analyst

Katie Kudron, Intern

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

ROTC cadets; in-state student status ([S.B. 1021](#)) – Chapter 57

Entitles a person who is a contracted cadet participating in a Reserve Officer Training Corp program in Arizona to classification as an in-state student for tuition purposes.

medical marijuana dispensaries; location ([S.B. 1105](#)) – Chapter 6 RFEIR

[SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.](#)

grade levels; 9/11 instruction ([S.B. 1225](#)) – Chapter 2 E

An emergency measure effective March 19, 2025, that narrows the requirement to provide age-appropriate instruction on the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks to only public schools that instruct students in grades 7 through 12.

~~Arizona teachers academy; community colleges~~ (NOW: tobacco use; sale; minimum age) ([S.B. 1247](#)) – Chapter 228

[SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.](#)

charter schools; access; decision-making authority ([S.B. 1358](#)) – Chapter 100

Authorizes a charter representative, charter school governing body member and officer and a director, member and partner of a charter holder, as allowed by the charter holder, to have: 1) access to the charter school's students and student records; 2) unrestricted access to the charter school's campuses; and 3) authority to make final decisions regarding student learning and the safety of the charter school's students and campuses.

schools; health services; disclosures ([S.B. 1383](#)) – Chapter 188

Requires each school district and charter school, upon the request of a parent or guardian, to provide: 1) the health care credentials of each individual who provides routine health care services in the school's health office; and 2) information describing the types of emergency response training that the school requires employees to complete.

mandatory reporting; school employees; investigations ([S.B. 1437](#)) – Chapter 40

Subjects school district governing board (governing board) members, charter school governing body (governing body) members and substitute teachers to the mandatory duty to report abuse, physical injury, neglect and denial or deprivation of medical care or nourishment of minors (abuse of minors). Expands the individuals for whom a mandatory report must be made to include

a public school employee or third-party contractor who a certificated person, noncertificated person, governing board member or governing body member reasonably suspects of engaging in immoral or unprofessional conduct that would be subject to the duty to report the abuse of minors.

A student who is a potential victim of a reportable offense must be interviewed only as provided by the adopted local county protocol, except a school resource officer (SRO) or school safety officer (SSO) may receive a voluntary report of abuse of minors from a student who is a potential victim and ask the student minimal follow-up questions as outlined. A report made to an SRO or SSO does not satisfy the duty to report abuse of minors, but an SRO or SSO who receives a report relating to abuse of minors must immediately notify the appropriate law enforcement agencies and submit all related information for investigation purposes.

epinephrine delivery systems ([S.B. 1440](#)) – Chapter 104

[SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.](#)

DCS; school visits; identification requirements ([S.B. 1493](#)) – Chapter 161

Requires, when a Department of Child Safety (DCS) caseworker visits a child at the child's school for an interview, the school to require the caseworker to present DCS identification and requires the caseworker to present such identification. If a caseworker denies or is unable to provide DCS identification, the caseworker must provide the school with the contact information for the DCS office in which the caseworker is employed and the school must contact the DCS office to verify the caseworker's identification and employment. A caseworker may be asked to show a valid driver license or nonoperation identification license on request. A school may keep a digital or physical record of a caseworker's DCS identification, but may not keep a digital or physical record of the caseworker's personal identifying information.

literacy endorsement; curricula; special education ([S.B. 1502](#)) – Chapter 141

Directs the State Board of Education to adopt rules that require all approved educator preparation programs in mild-moderate special education to include the courses necessary to obtain the literacy endorsement for certificated teachers who provide literacy instruction to students in kindergarten programs and grades one through five. *Curriculum*, for the purposes of a K-3 literacy plan, includes any curriculum that is used to provide reading instruction to children with disabilities or English language learners.

community colleges; baccalaureate degrees; reports ([S.B. 1504](#)) – Chapter 108

Requires each community college district (CCD) that offers baccalaureate degree programs to include the projected enrollment for each baccalaureate degree program in the CCD's annual report to the Governor and Legislature. The report must include the total number of students pursuing a baccalaureate degree and the total number of completed baccalaureate degrees disaggregated by baccalaureate degree program.

certified teachers; braille literacy; requirements (S.B. 1505) – Chapter 109

Requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to require teachers who are certified in educating blind and visually impaired pupils to demonstrate competency in braille by successfully completing: 1) a National Certification in Unified English Braille examination, rather than a nationally validated test; or 2) a comparable braille test developed in a university-level teacher preparation program, rather than a program developed in the University of Arizona's visual impairment program. The SBE may not require certified teachers who completed a university-level teacher preparation program or bachelor's degree program before July 2016 to demonstrate competency in braille as outlined until January 1, 2028.

~~CTEDs; state universities; intergovernmental agreements~~ (NOW: CTEDs; postsecondary institutions; intergovernmental agreements) (S.B. 1525) – Chapter 72

Stipulates that a career technical education district (CTED) may enter into an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with a public university for the provision of administrative, operational and educational services only if the community college district (CCD) for each county in which the CTED is located is unable to offer the career and technical education (CTE) course or program in the next school year. A CCD is unable to offer a CTE course or program in the next school year if: 1) by November 1, a CTED governing board notifies the CCD that the CTED seeks to offer a CTE course or program that is unavailable through an existing IGA with the CTED and CCD, but that is available through a public university; and 2) within 30 days of receiving the CTED's notice, the CCD fails to respond to the notice or the CCD notifies the CTED that no CCD is able to offer the CTE course or program.

The Arizona Board of Regents must enter into an IGA with a CTED governing board if the agreement will serve the interests of the state and may delegate the requirement to enter IGAs with a CTED as outlined.

student athletes; employment status; restrictions (S.B. 1615) – Chapter 143 E

An emergency measure effective May 7, 2025, that allows a postsecondary education institution (postsecondary institution) to compensate a student athlete for use of the student's own name, image and likeness (NIL) as prescribed. A student athlete may not: 1) use the postsecondary institution's property to increase NIL opportunities without first obtaining the postsecondary institution's express authorization; 2) execute an NIL contract before disclosing the contract to the postsecondary institution; or 3) execute an NIL contract if any provision of the contract conflicts with the student athlete's team contract or other postsecondary institution contract or policy. A postsecondary institution that determines that a student athlete has violated the prohibitions must notify the student athlete of the determination. Outlines prohibitions and requirements for intercollegiate athletic regulators and postsecondary education institutions relating to the use of a student athlete's NIL. NIL contract records are not public records and NIL contract information collected by a postsecondary education institution are not subject to public disclosure.

Prescribes causes of action that may be brought in a court of competent jurisdiction for violations relating to student athlete compensation. A postsecondary institution employee is not liable for a student athlete's inability to earn NIL compensation because of a decision or action that routinely occurs in intercollegiate athletic programs.

Authorizes a public university or nonprofit organization that assists student athletes in earning NIL compensation to conduct a raffle if outlined conditions are met.

state board; allegations of misconduct ([S.B. 1659](#)) – Chapter 115

Allows the highest ranking official (official) of a school or school district to request information from the State Board of Education (SBE) relating to allegations of conduct that, if true, constitute grounds for disciplinary action against a certificated or noncertificated person who resigned or otherwise separated from employment with a school before the SBE investigates the allegations or determines whether to take disciplinary action against the person. The SBE must provide any available information to a requesting official after verifying the official's identity and may deny an official's request or provide the information after the SBE completes the investigation if providing the requested information might impede the SBE's investigation of the allegations.

school districts; overexpenditures; ADE; notice ([S.B. 1689](#)) – Chapter 116

Requires the Arizona Department of Education (ADE), if ADE determines without prior notification from a county school superintendent that a school district's expenditures exceed the school district's general budget limit or unrestricted capital budget limit, to notify the county school superintendent and take any statutorily required actions. Allows a county school superintendent to review the operations and finances of any school district in the county.

medical schools; admissions; in-state students ([S.B. 1727](#)) – Chapter 117

Beginning January 1, 2027, requires a public university medical school (medical school) to: 1) post specified admissions information on the medical school's website and include the admissions information in any promotional materials distributed to prospective students; 2) offer an interview to each applicant from Arizona who submits a timely application, meets admissions qualifications and requirements and pays all application fees; 3) give priority consideration to Arizona applicants who meet the prescribed requirements; and 4) by October 1 of each year, report specified information to the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) relating to the number of applicants and the application procedures during the prior school year. An applicant is deemed to be from Arizona if the applicant is classified as an in-state student or graduated from an Arizona high school.

expenditure limit; school districts; 2025-2026 ([S.C.R. 1041](#))

Effective June 27, 2025, authorizes school districts in FY 2026 to spend local revenues in excess of the aggregate expenditure limitation.

expenditure limitation; school districts; 2026-2027 ([S.C.R. 1042](#))

Effective June 27, 2025, authorizes school districts in FY 2027 to spend local revenues in excess of the aggregate expenditure limitation.

schools; water safety; information; resources ([H.B. 2019](#)) – Chapter 128

Requires the Arizona Department of Education (ADE), before the 2025-2026 school year, to compile and post on ADE's website: 1) information on the role of water safety education courses and swimming lessons in saving lives; and 2) a list of local providers of water safety courses or swimming lessons that result in certification.

Requires each school district and charter school, beginning in the 2025-2026 school year, to provide each parent who initially enrolls a child in the district or school with the webpage address for the water safety information compiled by ADE.

school safety; proposals; assessments; plans ([H.B. 2074](#)) – Chapter 129

Expands the School Safety Program (Program) to include supporting the costs of placing school safety officers (SSOs) on school campuses. A Program proposal for a school resource officer (SRO), juvenile probation officer (JPO) or SSO must include a plan to train the SRO, JPO or SSO on the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, civil rights and adolescent mental health issues.

Establishes an alternative Program proposal process to support the costs of purchasing safety training and technology and infrastructure improvements for school campuses and allows a school district or charter school to submit an alternative Program proposal if the school: 1) receives approval for a Program proposal for an SRO, JPO, SSO, school counselor or school social worker; and 2) cannot place one or more of the individuals included in the school's Program proposal. Outlines alternative proposal application requirements.

Requires each school district and charter school that receives Program approval and monies to: 1) develop an emergency response plan as prescribed; and 2) contract with a school safety assessment provider every five years to conduct a school safety assessment. Each charter school must also include emergency response plan requirements in the school's charter. ADE must select a random sample of schools every three years to conduct a school safety assessment and provide the results to the respective school administrators and governing entities. A Program proposal must include a plan to provide the school's current blueprints, floor plans and school safety assessment to the local law enforcement and first responder agencies that provide services to the school site. Determines that school building blueprints and floor plans are not public record and exempt from public record requirements.

Requires each school district and charter school that employs officers on school campus to train each officer how to recognize and interact with children with disabilities.

public schools; ultraprocessed foods ([H.B. 2164](#)) – Chapter 52

Prohibits, beginning in school year 2026-2027, any school that participates in a federally funded or assisted meal program from serving, selling or allowing a third party to sell ultraprocessed food on school campus during the normal school day. The Arizona Department of Education must post: 1) a standardized form on its public website that public schools may use to ensure compliance with ultraprocessed food restrictions; and 2) a list of compliant public schools.

individualized education programs; dyslexia diagnosis ([H.B. 2170](#)) – Chapter 196

Requires, if a child is found to need special education and related services because of a specific learning disability, the child's individualized education program to indicate whether the child has been diagnosed with dyslexia.

~~behavioral health examiners board; continuation~~ (NOW: health boards; state agencies; continuations) ([H.B. 2313](#)) – Chapter 249 E

[SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.](#)

school policies; internet; wireless devices ([H.B. 2484](#)) – Chapter 53

Requires each school district governing board and charter school governing body to prescribe and enforce policies and procedures that limit student use of wireless communication devices during the school day and that govern student access to school-provided internet, including policies that restrict student access to social media platforms. The policies and procedures must include procedures for a student and the student's parent to contact one another and for a student who needs a wireless communication device because of a medical condition. Each school district must provide a copy of the adopted policies to parents, teachers and students at the beginning of each year and provide notification for any changes to the policies. A school district or charter school is not required to adopt the policies and procedures if the school district or charter school has existing policies and procedures that meet the prescribed requirements on September 26, 2025.

notices; directory information; disclosure; consent ([H.B. 2514](#)) – Chapter 83

Allows a school to disclose student directory information in accordance with state and federal law if the school first notifies a parent or student who is at least 18 years old of: 1) the types of information the school designates as directory information; 2) the right to refuse the disclosure of any of the student's directory information; and 3) the period of time in which a parent or eligible student must notify the school to not disclose the student's directory information. Prohibits a school from disclosing a student's address, telephone number or email address unless outlined conditions are met and requires the Arizona Department of Education to design and provide a form for parents or eligible students to request for a student's directory information to not be released.

Requires, rather than allows a school district governing board to provide parents its parental involvement policy in an electronic or printed form, rather than only electronically.

statewide assessment; accommodations; written form ([H.B. 2540](#)) – Chapter 204

Authorizes, if a high school student participates in a nationally recognized assessment that is adopted by the State Board of Education (SBE) and administered by a person other than the school district or charter school, the pupil or pupil's parent or guardian to submit the pupil's official score report for the assessment to the school district or charter school. On receipt of a pupil's official score report, a school district or charter school must record the score in the pupil's file and report the score to the SBE and Arizona Department of Education. If a pupil submits an official score report before the school district or charter school administers the statewide assessment, the school district or charter school must allow the pupil to opt out of participation in the school-administered statewide assessment and use the pupil's official score report data for the pupil's reported statewide assessment achievement data.

Stipulates that, rather than on the request of a school district or charter school, the school district or charter school may administer the statewide assessment in the form of a written test to: 1) accommodate special circumstances; 2) for religious purposes; 3) on request by a pupil's parent or guardian; or 4) if a written test is required pursuant to an Individualized Education Program or Section 504 plan.

Arizona teachers academy; community colleges.. ([H.B. 2765](#)) – Chapter 92

Expands the definition of *eligible postsecondary institution* for the purpose of the Arizona Teachers Academy to include any Arizona community college, rather than only Arizona community colleges that offer specific postbaccalaureate programs.

juveniles; temporary custody; parental notification ([H.B. 2779](#)) – Chapter 220

[SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.](#)

unauthorized encampments; higher education institutions ([H.B. 2880](#)) – Chapter 152

[SEE THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.](#)

LEGISLATION VETOED

pronouns; biological sex; school policies ([S.B. 1002](#)) – VETOED

Prohibits a school district or charter school employee or independent contractor from, without written parental permission, knowingly referring to a student who is younger than 18 years old by a pronoun that differs from the pronoun that aligns with the student's biological sex or by a first name other than the first or middle name listed on the student's official school records, except a commonly associated nickname. A school district or charter school may not require an employee or independent contractor to address, identify or refer to a person by a pronoun other than the

pronoun aligning with the person's biological sex, if doing so is contrary to the employee's or independent contractor's religious or moral convictions. Each school district governing board and charter school governing body must adopt policies to implement the prohibitions.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1002 will not increase opportunity, security or freedom for Arizonans.

public schools; restrooms; reasonable accommodations (S.B. 1003) – VETOED

Requires a public school to provide a reasonable accommodation to a person who is unwilling or unable to use a multi-occupancy restroom or changing facility designated for the person's sex or multi-occupancy sleeping quarters at a school-sponsored activity, if the person requests an accommodation in writing. *Reasonable accommodation* includes access to a single-occupancy or employee restroom or changing facility and does not include a restroom or changing facility designated for the opposite sex while persons of the opposite sex are, or could be, present.

Outlines legal remedies for: 1) a person whose written request for a reasonable accommodation is denied by the public school; 2) a person who encounters a person of the opposite sex in a multi-occupancy restroom or changing facility designated for their sex in a public school building; and 3) a person who the public school requires to share sleeping quarters with a person of the opposite sex. A claim must be brought in superior court in the county where either the person resides or the public school is located and be initiated within two years of the alleged violation. A person who is aggrieved and prevails in court may recover monetary damages for all psychological, emotional and physical harm suffered.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1003 will not increase opportunity, security or freedom for Arizonans.

disruption; educational institution; concealed weapon (S.B. 1020) – VETOED

[SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.](#)

school districts; bonds; overrides; ballots (S.B. 1091) – VETOED

Prescribes ballot language relating to property tax for school district budget override and bond elections.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1091 is duplicative, ineffective, nonsensical and objectionable.

school districts; partisan elections (S.B. 1441) – VETOED

[SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.](#)

school district budgets; three years (S.B. 1472) – VETOED

Redefines *budget year* as a fiscal year that is both a fiscal year for which a school district is budgeting and one of the three fiscal years that immediately follow the current year and requires a school district governing board to prepare a proposed budget for the next three fiscal years, rather than the fiscal year that immediately follows the current year. A school budget correction may be made in the current year or in the budget year immediately following the current year.

Adds, to the information that a school district budget format must contain: 1) the enrollment projections for each of the next three years and 2) the rate of change in student enrollment between the current year and the fifth year immediately preceding the current year. The Auditor General must include the rate of change in student enrollment and the enrollment projections for each of the next three fiscal years in the form of the summary of the proposed budget.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1472 would do nothing to improve the budgeting process for school districts.

gender transition procedures; provider liability (S.B. 1586) – VETOED

[SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.](#)

higher education; withholding state monies (S.B. 1694) – VETOED

Deems a public university or community college ineligible to receive state monies in any fiscal year in which the institution offers one or more courses on diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) and prohibits the State Treasurer, the Arizona Board of Regents or the Arizona Department of Administration from distributing state monies to a public university or community college in a fiscal year in which the institution offers a course on DEI.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that jeopardizing public university and community college state funding attacks their future stability and would lead to negative effects on Arizona's workforce and economy.

~~school immunizations; exemption; adult students~~ (NOW: immunizations; proof; exemptions; higher education) (H.B. 2058) – VETOED

Requires a higher education institution that requires students to submit documentary proof of immunization to fully disclose the immunization requirements and exemptions to prospective students and exempt any student who is at least 18 years old from the requirement if the student submits a signed statement or a written certification. A submitted signed statement must state that the student has received outlined information about immunizations, understands the potential risks and benefits of immunizations and nonimmunization and does not consent to the immunizations due to personal or religious beliefs. A submitted written certification must be signed by the student and a physician or registered nurse practitioner, state that one or more of the required immunizations may be detrimental to the student's health and indicate the specific nature and

probable duration of the medical condition or circumstance that precludes immunization. An exemption for a student who submits a written certification is valid only during the duration of the medical condition or circumstance that precludes immunization.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2058 is unnecessary, given existing university and community college policies.

parental notification; school immunization exemptions (H.B. 2063) – VETOED

Requires any school communication regarding school immunization requirements to a parent, guardian or person in loco parentis to include information about immunization exemptions.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2063 is unnecessary, as the information it is trying to disseminate is widely available and easily accessible for those who are interested.

~~school facilities oversight board; continuation~~ (NOW: governing boards; records; access) (H.B. 2067) – VETOED

Allows each member of a school district governing board (governing board) to access all information and records that are maintained by the school district for the purposes of carrying out the governing board's official functions and duties. A school district administrator, official or records custodian must provide a governing board member the requested information or records within 10 days of receiving a request and may not require a governing board member to submit a public records request for the information or consider whether the requested information or records are relevant to any upcoming governing board meeting agenda item.

Requires a governing board member who receives information or records to maintain any confidentiality, privilege or privacy granted or imposed by statute or common law. A governing board member who receives information or records relating to the discipline of an employee or student may not discuss or share the information or records outside of an executive session, but a governing board member is not prohibited from disclosing information or records relating to the governing board member's reasonable suspicion of unlawful conduct with specified entities.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that she will not support providing individual governing board members with blanket access to sensitive records without compelling reasons and sufficient guardrails.

school districts; board meetings; expenditures (H.B. 2169) – VETOED

Requires a school district governing board (governing board) to hold all governing board and subcommittee meetings at a public facility in the school district, subject to open meeting law requirements, and to provide the public with: 1) online access to meeting materials in the same manner as the governing board provides online access to meeting notices; and 2) if the school district has a student count of more than 5,000 students, a live video feed of each meeting and

online access to video recordings of the meetings. A governing board must provide the public online access to meeting materials, minutes and video recordings for at least five years after the date of the meeting.

Requires a governing board to approve in a public meeting and by majority roll call vote, any out-of-state travel on a per-trip basis for a school district superintendent or principal, representatives of the superintendent or principal or members or members-elect of the governing board. When considering proposed out-of-state travel, a governing board must take prescribed actions, including identifying each individual who may travel, estimating cost of the proposed travel and describing the purposes and benefits of the proposed travel.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that she is concerned about the unintended consequences of H.B. 2169, including adverse impacts on interscholastic activities.

children with disabilities; evaluation; deadline (H.B. 2375) – VETOED

Requires a home school district, if a child's parent submits a written request between May 1 and August 15 for an evaluation in accordance with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, to begin the evaluation or provide the parent written notice of refusal to conduct the requested evaluation within 15 calendar days of receiving the request.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2375 does not address public school staffing over the summer and provides no financial support for adequate implementation.

school districts; board members; superintendent (H.B. 2610) – VETOED

Retroactive to January 1, 2025, requires, if the State Board of Education (SBE) places a school district in receivership, the school district superintendent to be terminated for cause and each seat of the school district governing board (governing board) to be deemed vacant within 31 days after being placed in receivership. A receiver may not provide a severance or buyout package to the school district superintendent. A terminated school district superintendent may file an appeal for the termination to the SBE as outlined, but if the school district superintendent does not prevail in the appeal, the school district superintendent must surrender any certificates issued by the Arizona Department of Education (ADE). The county school superintendent must appoint governing board members to fill the vacancies until the next general election. Deems a person ineligible to hold an appointed state, county, city, town or precinct office that is established by legislative enactment if the person: 1) held a governing board seat that was deemed vacant as a result of the school district being placed in receivership; or 2) resigned from the office of governing board member up to one month before the school district was placed in receivership.

A governing board member may be exempt from the requirement to vacate if the governing board member: 1) submits a written complaint relating to the school district's financial practices to the SBE or ADE before being placed in receivership; 2) was elected or appointed less than six months before the school district was placed in receivership; or 3) applies to the SBE for a waiver. For governing board members who submit a waiver, the SBE must waive the requirement to vacate if the application and evidence demonstrate that the governing board member attempted to address the fiscal mismanagement or received false information relating to the school district's finances.

Prohibits a governing board from entering into two or more real estate transactions within 12 months if the transactions involve both the same parties and property. Before approving an expenditure, publishing a proposed budget or adopting a budget, a school district's administrators must provide all information and records relating to the item in a meeting at least one week before the governing board votes on the expenditure or budget or publishes the proposed budget.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2610 seeks broad retribution rather than providing targeted methods to address problems. The Governor states that mandating the upheaval of an entire governing board is legislative overreach that would create disruption and confusion for school districts during times of crisis.

school districts; leases; termination; nonrenewal (H.B. 2640) – VETOED

Grants the right of first refusal to purchase a school district building to a charter school or its charter authorizer that is either leasing the building from the school district or is the most recent lessee of the vacant building. A school district may not withdraw a property from sale or lease solely because a charter school exercises the right of first refusal. Proceeds derived from the sale of school property to other schools are exempt from the restrictions on the expenditure of proceeds derived from the sale or lease of school property.

A school district may terminate the lease or refuse to renew the lease for a public school, private school or existing tenant that provides services to public school students only if the school district governing board: 1) announces the proposal to refuse to renew or terminate the lease in a public hearing; 2) provides an opportunity for public comment regarding the announced proposal for at least 90 days after the announcement; 3) reviews and considers any submitted public comment before approving the lease nonrenewal or termination; and 4) approves the proposal in a public hearing before the date of the proposed termination or the date the lease is set to expire.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that, while sufficient time for public comment and discussion is critical in school district governing board decisions, she cannot support attempts to retroactively undo decisions of elected governing board members.

health education; fetal development instruction (H.B. 2670) – VETOED

Requires the State Board of Education (SBE), in adopting course of study and competency requirements, to require all health education instruction provided to students in grades 7 or 8 to include instruction on fetal development. The instruction must include a description of the growth and development of an unborn child that occurs during each trimester of pregnancy and information about the human reproductive process, pregnancy and infertility. The SBE may require health education instruction that is provided to students in any of grades 1 through 6 or 9 through 12 to include age-appropriate instruction on fetal development.

Each school district and charter school must provide a description of the course curriculum to all parents and notify parents of the ability to withdraw their child from the instruction. At the request of a student's parent, a student must be excused from instruction on fetal development.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2670 conflicts with Arizona's opt-in sex education requirements and will create confusion in implementation. The Governor states that the SBE and schools, rather than the Legislature, are the appropriate entities to discuss instructional requirements.

academic standards; social studies; geography ([H.B. 2700](#)) – VETOED

Requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to add geography to the high school social studies academic standards and include instruction on the Gulf of America in the high school geography academic standards.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that, instead of working to lower costs, secure the border, create jobs and protect public education, the Legislature has chosen to dictate how teachers refer to geographic features. The Governor states that she encourages refocusing on solving real problems for Arizonans.

antisemitism; public schools; prohibition; penalties ([H.B. 2867](#)) – VETOED

Prescribes prohibitions on public schools, higher education institutions and employees of a public school or higher education institution relating to the teaching or promotion of antisemitism or anti-Semitic conduct, acts and processes (antisemitism or anti-Semitic conduct). A public school, higher education institution or an employee of a public school or higher education institution may not call for the genocide of any group of persons, require students to advocate for an anti-Semitic point of view to receive credit or teach or promote any antisemitism or anti-Semitic conduct that constitutes harassment or discrimination and creates a hostile education or work environment. Public monies and grants may not be used or provided to support the costs of teaching antisemitism or anti-Semitic conduct. Public schools, higher education institutions, teachers and faculty may not apply for, or receive, monies or in-kind goods and services from any source for purposes relating to antisemitism and anti-Semitic conduct. A public school or higher education institution may not take adverse action against an employee for refusing to teach or promote antisemitism or anti-Semitic conduct or require the employee to complete a curriculum that includes antisemitism or anti-Semitic conduct as a condition of employment.

Authorizes a student, student's parent, public school teacher, higher education institution faculty member or member of the public to report an alleged violation of the prohibited conduct to the highest-ranking official of the applicable public school or higher education institution (official). The official or the official's designee must take outlined actions with each reported complaint. If it is determined that a violation occurred, the official or official's designee must act to correct the violation within 30 days after receiving the complaint, including by taking prescribed disciplinary actions against an employee found to have knowingly or recklessly violated the prohibited conduct. For complaints relating to a public school, the official or official's designee must notify the State Board of Education (SBE) to take the disciplinary action. A person who reported an alleged violation may appeal an official's or designee's determination. After a governing board or governing body has had the opportunity to resolve a complaint relating to a public school, an individual may further appeal the complaint with the SBE.

After the SBE, the Arizona Board of Regents or a community college district governing board makes a determination on an appealed complaint, a student who is at least 18 years old or the parent of a minor student may bring an action in a court of competent jurisdiction to enjoin any violation of the prohibited conduct that creates a hostile education environment. The court must hold a trial de novo and decide all questions of fact without deference to any previous determination. To prevail, a student or student's parent must prove by a preponderance of evidence that each allegation occurred, created a hostile education environment, was characterized by antisemitism and was not protected speech. A court may award damages, court costs and reasonable attorney fees for an action brought. A public school or higher education institution may not use taxpayer monies to satisfy a judgment or reimburse an individual defendant found liable for a violation of the prohibited conduct.

Outlines administrative and compliance requirements Designates this legislation as the *Antisemitism in Education Act*.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2867 puts an unacceptable level of personal liability in place for public school, community college and public university educators and staff by opening them up to threats of personally costly lawsuits. Additionally, the Governor states that H.B. 2867 sets a dangerous precedent that unfairly targets public school teachers while shielding private school staff.

Federalism Committee

Senator Mark Finchem, Chairperson



Anna Nguyen, Research Analyst

Daniel Lawler, Intern

FEDERALISM COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

townsites; trustees; board of supervisors. (S.B. 1218) – Chapter 7

Designates the trustee of a townsite as the county board of supervisors (county BOS) of the county in which the townsite is located, rather than the superior court judge. The bond that a trustee executes to the state before discharging the trustee's duties must be filed with the county recorder, rather than approved by and filed with the county BOS. Removes the requirements that: 1) the county BOS must approve a townsite plat and advise and consent to the trustee deeding a site to the county for a courthouse and other county buildings; and 2) appraisers for the disposal of unclaimed townsite lots are paid \$5 per day for each day engaged.

sovereign authority (H.C.R. 2049)

Expresses the state's intent to exercise sovereignty over all powers not otherwise granted to the Federal Government or reserved to the people by the U.S. Constitution. Determines that H.C.R. 2049 serves as notice and demand to the Federal Government to cease and desist mandates that are beyond the scope of the constitutionally delegated powers. Requests that all compulsory federal legislation, rules, actions or programs that direct states to comply under the threat of civil or criminal penalties or sanctions, that require states to pass legislation, lose federal funding or that have been declared by any federal court to be unconstitutionally coercive or commandeering be prohibited or repealed. Encourages Arizona citizens to take any action and pursue any available legal remedy to assert Arizona's sovereign authority consistent with the Arizona Constitution.

LEGISLATION VETOED

foreign entities; land; legislative approval (S.B. 1066) – VETOED

Prohibits land in Arizona from being conveyed to a foreign entity that is hostile to the United States. Defines a *foreign entity that is hostile to the United States* as a country that is identified by the U.S. Director of National Intelligence as a country that poses a threat to the national security of the United States in each of the three most recent annual threat assessments of the U.S. Intelligence Community.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1066 conflicts with federal law and lacks clear implementation criteria which could open the door to arbitrary enforcement and infringement on due process.

Finance Committee

Senator J.D. Mesnard, Chairperson



Molly Graver, Research Analyst
Kati Pratt, Assistant Research Analyst
Anastasia Lobo, Intern

FINANCE COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

tax deed land sales; procedures (S.B. 1070) – Chapter 15

Allows a county board of supervisors (county BOS) to sell tax-deeded real property that is held by the state to a contiguous agricultural or commercial property owner, or to a homeowners' association if the property is part of a common area maintained by the association. If there are multiple contiguous property owners, the county BOS must accept the offer that demonstrates that the owner's property was most recently under common ownership with the sale property. Any sale of tax-deeded real property that is held by the state to a contiguous property owner is conditioned on the contiguous property owner's agreement to request that the county assessor jointly assess the properties for property tax purposes. A county BOS may establish procedures for accepting monetary offers for sales of contiguous tax-deeded property and may sell tax-deeded real property that is held by the state *over the counter* in certain circumstances.

pharmacy benefits; prescribing; exemption (S.B. 1102) – Chapter 5

[SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.](#)

~~barbering and cosmetology fund; enforcement~~ (NOW: political subdivision entity; benefits) (S.B. 1117) – Chapter 154

[SEE THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.](#)

assessor's valuations; special districts; petitions (S.B. 1120) – Chapter 61

Clarifies the property types and values used when establishing, annexing and modifying the boundaries of a fire, community park maintenance, sanitary or hospital special taxing district.

property tax exemptions; inflation adjustment (S.B. 1122) – Chapter 16

Modifies the method used to annually increase the property assessment limit under which a widow, widower or person or veteran with a disability may qualify for a property tax exemption by requiring the Arizona Department of Revenue to increase the property assessment limit using the average annual percentage increase in the Federal Housing Finance Agency House Price Index for Arizona, rather than the GDP price deflator.

jail facilities excise tax; extension (S.B. 1144) – Chapter 155

[SEE THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.](#)

employment practices; wage claims (S.B. 1159) – Chapter 38

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

~~special deposits; banks; requirements; definitions~~ (NOW: banks; special deposits; requirements) (S.B. 1206) – Chapter 63

Special Deposits and Account Agreements – Adopts the Uniform Special Deposits Act (Act), which governs bank deposits made under an account agreement that includes a permissible purpose and designates at least one beneficiary who may receive payments from the deposit upon the occurrence of a contingency. A *permissible purpose* includes either a governmental, regulatory, commercial, charitable or testamentary objective and an associated duty to hold monies to serve the permissible purpose. A deposit is a special deposit if the deposit: 1) was made under an account agreement; 2) is for the benefit of at least two beneficiaries; 3) is denominated in a medium of exchange currently authorized or adopted by a domestic or foreign government; 4) is for a permissible purpose as stated in the account agreement; and 5) is subject to a contingency specified in the account agreement. A bank and depositor may amend an account agreement without the consent of a beneficiary in outlined circumstances.

Obligations, Rights and Duties of a Bank – Requires a bank to pay a beneficiary if there are sufficient monies in the special deposit balance unless the account agreement states otherwise. If the monies available in a special deposit are insufficient to cover a payment, the beneficiary may elect to either be paid the available monies or receive a pro rata share of the available monies if there is more than one beneficiary. The bank does not have a fiduciary duty to any person with respect to a special deposit. A debtor-creditor relationship exists between the bank and a beneficiary only when the bank holding the special deposit becomes obligated to pay the beneficiary. A court may enjoin a bank, or grant similar relief, against paying a depositor or beneficiary only if the payment would constitute or facilitate material fraud. If a deposit no longer serves a permissible purpose, the Act allows a bank to terminate the deposit, and the property interest prohibition, creditor process protections and other rights of relief cease to apply to the deposit. Outlines special deposit account agreement, termination and liability requirements.

Miscellaneous –The parties of an account agreement may choose a forum in Arizona for settling a dispute regarding a special deposit regardless of whether a party to the account agreement or an associated transaction has a reasonable relation to the state. Applies the Act to: 1) a special deposit under an account agreement that states the intention to establish a special deposit governed by the Act; 2) a special deposit made under an account agreement executed on or after September 26, 2025; and 3) a deposit made under an agreement executed before September 26, 2025, if all parties entitled to amend the agreement agree to make the deposit a special deposit and the deposit referenced in the amended agreement satisfies the requirements to establish a special deposit.

China; public funds; divestment (S.B. 1221) – Chapter 156

Prohibits a publicly managed fund from holding certain investments in the People's Republic of China or in companies owned or controlled by, or domiciled within, the People's Republic of China or other specified Chinese entities. A *publicly managed fund* is a short-term or long-term investment structure that is managed, run, controlled or otherwise overseen by the state or a political subdivision. Prescribes procedures to identify prohibited holdings and requires a publicly managed fund to immediately divest from any prohibited companies and complete total divestment as soon as financially prudent, but before September 26, 2026. A publicly managed

fund is exempt from the requirement to divest, if: 1) its holdings or investments in Chinese companies are less than one percent of the fund's total holdings or investments; and 2) the divestment cost over the next five years is more than one percent of the fund's total prohibited holdings or investments.

property tax; limited property value (S.B. 1224) – Chapter 96

Adds properties that previously qualified for a property valuation protection option or a statutory property valuation and that no longer qualify to the circumstances that require the county assessor to determine the property's limited property value at a level or percentage of full cash value that is comparable to other properties of the same or similar use or classification.

tax corrections act of 2025 (S.B. 1274) – Chapter 182

Corrects errors and obsolete language, addresses blending problems and provides clarifying changes to tax statutes.

Tax Provisions – Specifies, retroactive to October 30, 2023, that interest does not accrue and is not payable on the 2023 Arizona Families Tax Rebate. Allows a part-time or seasonal employee whose services consist solely of planting, cultivating, harvesting or field packing seasonal agricultural crops to elect to have income tax withheld. Requires the Arizona State Lottery Commission, a permittee conducting horse or dog racing, a fantasy sports contest operator or an event wagering operator to deduct and withhold from each payment of gambling winnings an amount equal to the highest individual income tax rate of 2.5 percent, rather than 20 percent of the amount prescribed by federal law.

Retroactive to January 1, 2022, the election to be taxed at the entity level is made by filing a partnership's or S corporation's business tax return. Requires a partnership that amends its tax return to reflect an administrative adjustment to file a return that shows the adjustments for the reviewed year.

Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) – Adds, to the individuals prohibited from preparing or assisting in the preparation of a tax return, any individual acting as an ADOR agent or contractor or any manager or supervisor of such an individual.

Miscellaneous – Removes, from the definition of a *qualifying health care organization*, the requirement to annually file its annual financial audit with ADOR.

PSPRS; part-time employment (S.B. 1287) – Chapter 183

Exempts a Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) member who is reemployed as a school resource officer from limitations on receiving pension payments from PSPRS after retiring.

Allows, beginning July 1, 2026, a part-time municipal police officer, state highway patrol officer and county sheriff and deputy who is engaged to work as a patrol officer and who meets other specified requirements to receive credited service in PSPRS for the part-time service, if the employer has chosen to allow part-time employees to participate, and the part-time work is for a

maximum period of six years due to the birth or adoption of a child or to provide care for a serious health condition of an immediate family member. The average monthly benefit compensation must exclude part-time earnings for the purposes of calculating an accidental, ordinary or catastrophic disability pension for a patrol officer that meets the requirements of a part-time member. For a qualifying part-time PSPRS member who is determined to be eligible for an accidental, ordinary or catastrophic disability pension before the member's normal retirement date, the PSPRS actuary must determine, and PSPRS must assess the employer, an amount that equals the actuarial present value of future benefit payments already accrued, calculated as of the member's disability retirement date.

~~health insurers; provider; payment; claims~~ (NOW: health insurers; provider credentialing; claims) ([S.B. 1291](#)) – Chapter 97

[SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.](#)

~~common expense liens; foreclosure; amount~~ ([S.B. 1494](#)) – Chapter 71

[SEE THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.](#)

~~tax credit; qualifying charitable organizations~~ ([S.B. 1496](#)) – Chapter 257

Modifies the definition of *qualifying charitable organizations* (QCOs) to require a QCO to direct or spend, rather than only spend, at least 50 percent of its budget on qualifying services to Arizona residents who receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families benefits, are low-income or have a chronic illness or physical disability. Defines *direct* as providing monies or financial or in-kind assistance to a QCO. Expands the definition of *services* by adding behavioral health services, workforce readiness services and workforce development programs.

~~unbuilt certificates; assured water supply~~ (NOW: Town of Wellton; expenditure limitation) ([S.B. 1521](#)) – Chapter 162

Retroactive to July 1, 2022, sets the Town of Wellton's penalty for exceeding its constitutional expenditure limitation in FY 2023 at \$100.

~~personal property exemptions; vehicles~~ (NOW: homestead; personal property; exemptions) ([S.B. 1540](#)) – Chapter 111

Adds park model trailers, motor homes, travel trailers, fifth wheel trailers, houseboats, manufactured homes and other forms of shelter in which a person resides, plus the land on which the shelter is located, to the property types that qualify for Arizona's homestead exemption.

For bankruptcy cases, a debtor's homestead exemption amount must initially be determined as of the date the bankruptcy petition is filed. If a debtor's value in the homestead is less than or equal to the amount of the homestead exemption at the time of filing bankruptcy, the homestead property and any value increase during case pendency is 100 percent exempt from the bankruptcy

proceeding even if the debtor's interest increases above the homestead exemption amount. Exempts all, rather than only the refundable portion of, federal and state earned income tax credits and child tax credits from execution, attachment or sale on any process issued from any court or other judicial remedy provided for the collections of debts.

conservation easements; valuation (S.B. 1549) – Chapter 11

Requires the Arizona Department of Revenue or a county assessor, when determining the full cash value of a conservation easement, to use and apply standard appraisal practices and techniques unless a statutory formula takes precedence.

workers' compensation; disability; definitions (S.B. 1551) – Chapter 73

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

mental health; autism; insurance coverage (S.B. 1590) – Chapter 142

Removes the insurance benefit caps on behavioral therapy for eligible persons who are 16 years old and younger. Redefines *autism spectrum disorder* as a pervasive, developmental disorder that meets the criteria for autism spectrum disorder as defined in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.

county board of equalization; decisions (S.B. 1700) – Chapter 76

Prohibits a decision by a county board of equalization regarding the valuation or legal classification of a petitioner's property from exceeding the county assessor's noticed valuation and recommended classification.

public safety cancer insurance (H.B. 2013) – Chapter 47

Allows the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Board of Trustees to pay the costs of administering the Cancer Insurance Program (CIP) by using up to the amount equal to 10 percent of the total claims paid, averaged over the previous five years, rather than up to 10 percent of the monies deposited in the CIP Account.

EORP; CORP; funded ratio (H.B. 2015) – Chapter 261

Elected Officials' Retirement Plan (EORP) – Prohibits an EORP member's contribution that exceeds 7 percent of compensation from being used to reduce the employer's contributions only until the employer's funded ratio is 100 percent or more. Prescribes conditions for the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Board of Trustees (PSPRS Board) to suspend contributions to PSPRS. If a fully funded employer account's actuarial valuation contains excess valuation assets, the PSPRS Board must account for the excess assets up to 100 percent of the present value of all future employer benefits, rather than 50 percent of the excess assets.

Correction Officer Retirement Plan (CORP) – Prohibits a CORP member's contribution that exceeds 8.41 or 7.96 percent of compensation, as applicable, from being used to reduce the employer's contributions only until the employer's funded ratio is 100 percent or more. Removes the minimum employer contribution rates and prescribes conditions for the PSPRS Board to suspend contributions to PSPRS. If the actuarial valuation of a CORP employer's account contains excess valuation assets, other than assets in the account as of FY 2005, and is more than 100 percent funded, the PSPRS Board must account for the excess valuation assets up to 100 percent of present value of all future benefits, rather than 50 percent of the excess valuation assets.

Allows the PSPRS Board to authorize an excess asset transfer to another PSPRS-managed employer account on request of a CORP employer and prescribes employer and asset transfer eligibility requirements. For an eligible state employer, the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) may request confirmation that the employer's account meets asset transfer requirements. Directs the Legislature to pass a bill directing the PSPRS Board to transfer assets from the eligible state employer account to another employer account and requires JLBC, before the Legislature passes the bill, to confirm transfer eligibility and discuss the transfer in a public meeting.

workers' compensation; assigned risk plan ([H.B. 2032](#)) – Chapter 120

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

ASRS; supplemental employee deferral plan ([H.B. 2034](#)) – Chapter 262

Specifies that an employee of an Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) employer, a political subdivision or a political subdivision entity is not eligible to participate in a supplemental employee deferral plan overseen by ASRS, if the employee is participating in the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) or a PSPRS-administered retirement plan.

ASRS; termination incentive programs ([H.B. 2035](#)) – Chapter 263

Defines *unfunded liability* for the purpose of assessing a cost to an employer for a termination incentive program that results in an unfunded liability to the Arizona State Retirement System.

ASRS; temporary personnel service ([H.B. 2036](#)) – Chapter 264

Allows an active member of the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) who is appointed as temporary personnel by a federal agency to receive credited service in ASRS for up to 60 months of temporary personnel service. The member's employer must make employer and member contributions in the same manner as contributions for active military service.

DIFI; financial enterprises; insurance; compact ([H.B. 2054](#)) – Chapter 222

Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions (DIFI) Administration – Eliminates the state's opt-out of all uniform standards involving long-term care insurance products. Allows, rather than requires, the Director of DIFI (Director) to adopt rules necessary to enforce statutes relating to: 1) money transmission; 2) extended warranty insurer deposits with the State Treasurer; 3) domestic, foreign and alien insurers' additional free surplus; and 4) property and casualty

insurance reporting requirements. Removes, from the Director's annual reporting requirement, the requirement to report on the total number of private passenger automobile insurance policies written by risk retention groups. Retroactive to January 1, 2025, modifies the license and registration renewal deadlines for consumer lenders, debt management companies, escrow agents, advance fee loan brokers and sales finance companies.

Prior Authorizations – Removes the requirement for a medical director who made the direct denial of a prior authorization for a service requested by a health care provider on the basis of medical necessity to sign the written denial.

Homeowners Insurance – Requires each insurer that writes homeowners insurance in Arizona to report to the Director, by April 1 of each year or a date determined by the Director, outlined information on each homeowners insurance policy the insurer had in force during the prior calendar year in the geographic areas of Arizona designated as heightened fire risk areas by the Director of the Department of Forestry and Fire Management. The information reported by homeowners insurers to DIFI is confidential and exempt from discovery, subpoena or disclosure pursuant to statutory public records requirements, with certain exceptions. By December 31, the Director must prepare an annual report of the information submitted by homeowners insurers and submit the report to the Governor, Legislature and Secretary of State and post the report on DIFI's public website.

Fire Insurance Review Task Force (Task Force) – Establishes the 9-member Task Force and outlines Task Force membership, duties and reporting requirements. Requires DIFI to provide the Task Force with: 1) the annual aggregated and deidentified insurance premium and policy coverage data reported by homeowners insurers; and 2) the total number of consumer complaints related to nonrenewal or cancellation of homeowners policies due to risk of fire loss and related to increases in homeowners insurance premiums. Terminates the Task Force on January 1, 2028.

Motor Vehicle Insurance Claims – For motor vehicle insurance claims communications, an insurer that conducts business in Arizona must accept electronic content submissions and communications through a method designated by the insurer as an acceptable form of communication between the insurer and the claimant or the claimant's authorized representative. An insurer must respond to an electronic content submission or communication with an acknowledgement of receipt within 10 business days. Electronic content submissions and communications may include time-sensitive documents and demands. Allows a motor vehicle insurer to accept a fax if another form of electronic communication is also available.

life insurance; illustrations ([H.B. 2076](#)) – Chapter 121

Beginning January 1, 2026, adopts the National Association of Insurance Commissioners Life Insurance Illustrations Model Act (Act) which provides rules for life insurance policy illustrations and prescribes illustration format, standards, disclosures, delivery and retention. An insurer that markets group or life insurance policies must notify the Director of the Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions (DIFI) whether a policy will be marketed with or without a life insurance policy illustration. An *illustration* is a presentation or depiction that includes nonguaranteed elements of a life insurance policy over a period of years and may take the form of

a basic, supplemental or in-force illustration. If a life insurance policy is issued, a basic illustration that conforms to applicable requirements must be sent with the policy and signed in accordance with prescribed delivery requirements and a copy must be provided to the insurer and policyowner.

Outlines prohibitions for an insurer or its producers or authorized representatives when using an illustration in the sale of a life insurance policy. If a life insurance policy will use an illustration, the insurer must provide each policyowner with an annual policy status report that includes outlined information. If an insurer makes an adverse change in nonguaranteed elements that could affect the policy since the last annual report, the annual report must contain notice of that fact and prominently display the nature of the change.

Each insurer's board of directors must appoint one or more illustration actuaries that fulfill certain requirements. An illustration actuary must certify that the disciplined current scale that is used in a life insurance policy illustration conforms with the actuarial standards of practice for compliance with the Act and that the illustrated scales meet certain requirements. The illustration actuary must file the annual certification with the insurer's board of directors and the Director of DIFI for all policy forms that utilize illustrations before a new policy form is illustrated.

An insurer or producer that violates prescribed life insurance illustration requirements commits an unfair trade practice in addition to any other penalties provided by law. Applies the illustrations requirements to all group and individual life insurance policies and certificates, with outlined exceptions.

ASRS; long-term disability ([H.B. 2077](#)) – Chapter 265

Specifies that, for an Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) member to qualify for long-term disability benefits, the disability must have occurred while employed for an ASRS employer.

public retirement systems; administration ([H.B. 2080](#)) – Chapter 192

Modifies administration of the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) and other PSPRS-managed retirement plans. Allows the PSPRS Board of Trustees to invest in stocks acquired as an investment in any commingled investment.

Subjects retired PSPRS and Corrections Officer Retirement Plan (CORP) members who become reemployed as contracted or leased employees before six months after that member's retirement date to outlined pension payment limitations. For a retired PSPRS or CORP member that is reemployed as a contracted or leased employee: 1) employee contributions may not be made on the member's account; 2) service may not be credited during the period of reemployment; and 3) the employer must pay the alternate contribution rate. Removes the specification that a PSPRS or CORP member who becomes reemployed in the same position from which the person retired at any time following retirement is subject to outlined pension payment limitations.

Specifies that an Elected Officials' Defined Contribution Retirement System (EODCRS) member who develops a total disability and who was not an active, inactive or retired member of the Elected Officials' Retirement Plan (EORP), or a member of EORP with a disability, may receive benefits from the EODCRS Disability Program.

Adds, to the definition of *eligible groups* for the purposes of participating in a supplemental defined contribution plan, term-limited state elected officials and exempt state officers and employees who elected to participate in the supplemental defined contribution plan option in effect on August 6, 1999.

small estate; affidavit; limits (H.B. 2116) – Chapter 24

[SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.](#)

model city tax code; notice (H.B. 2119) – Chapter 144

Requires a municipality that proposes an ordinance to adopt or repeal a model or local option in the Model City Tax Code (MCTC) to: 1) notify all taxpayers in the affected tax classification by mail at least 60 days before the governing body approves or rejects a proposed ordinance; and 2) request a list of all taxpayers in the affected tax classification from the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) at least 75 days before the municipality proposes the ordinance. The notification requirement does not apply to ordinances that impose a use tax or model or local option to exempt a city or town from use tax or a two-tiered tax rate structure for retail sales. A county or municipality may use confidential taxpayer information released by ADOR for the purpose of notifying affected taxpayers before a proposed ordinance is approved or rejected. A municipality that issues a business license must provide notice of any model or local option in the MCTC that will apply to an applicant at the time the applicant obtains a business license application.

~~claims; prior authorization; conduct~~ (NOW: prior authorization; claims) (H.B. 2175) – Chapter 165

Beginning July 1, 2026, requires a medical director to individually review a claim denial submitted on the basis of medical necessity before the health care insurer may deny the claim. Requires a medical director to individually review any denial of a prior authorization for a service that involves medical necessity before the health care insurer may issue a direct denial of the prior authorization. During each individual review of a prior authorization or claim denial, the medical director must exercise independent medical judgment and may not rely solely on recommendations derived from any other source.

captive insurers; certificate of dormancy (H.B. 2193) – Chapter 145

Allows a captive insurer domiciled in Arizona that has both ceased transacting insurance business and has no outstanding liabilities to apply for a certificate of dormancy by applying to the Director of the Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions (Director). The dormancy certificate must be renewed every five years. A dormant captive insurer may surrender its dormancy certificate by submitting an application to surrender to the Director and, until the

Director approves the application, the dormant captive insurer may not issue insurance policies or conduct insurance business. The Director may adopt guidelines, procedures and rules to implement dormant captive insurer certification requirements.

Requires a certificated dormant captive insurer to: 1) possess and thereafter maintain unimpaired, paid-in capital and surplus of at least \$125,000; 2) within 90 days after fiscal year end, submit to the Director a report of its financial condition that is verified by oath of two executive officers; and 3) pay a statutorily required certificate renewal fee.

Decreases, from \$500,000 to \$250,000, the minimum capital and surplus amount for a protected cell captive insurer licensure. Requires the board of managers of a captive insurer that is formed as a limited liability company to have at least one member who is an Arizona resident. Requires each captive insurer to pay its license renewal fee between July 1 and September 1 each year, rather than when the insurer files its annual report.

~~technical correction; electricity; power authority~~ (NOW: wildfire mitigation planning; utilities; approval) ([H.B. 2201](#)) – Chapter 167

Requires an electric utility to prepare and submit a wildfire mitigation plan to the State Forester for review and approval by May 1, 2026, and every even-numbered year thereafter.

Requires a public power entity to prepare and submit a wildfire mitigation plan to its governing body for review and approval and requires the public power entity's governing body to adopt a wildfire mitigation plan by May 1, 2026, and every even-numbered year thereafter, unless the governing body orders otherwise. A public power entity must submit its governing body-approved wildfire mitigation plan to the State Forester for further review and approval. Certain public power entities and electric utilities are allowed, but not required, to prepare a wildfire mitigation plan and others are exempt from the requirement to prepare a wildfire mitigation plan.

A wildfire mitigation plan must identify preventive actions, protective equipment and monitoring programs that the public power entity or electric utility will carry out, install, repair, replace or implement to minimize the risk of wildfire and must include other prescribed information. During the pendency of any review and approval process by the State Forester, any wildfire mitigation plan previously approved by the State Forester must remain approved and in effect. The State Forester may charge reasonable fees to public power entities and electric utilities for reviewing and approving wildfire mitigation plans.

Prescribes timelines and requirements for the State Forester after receiving a submitted wildfire mitigation plan, including a requirement to hold a public meeting to solicit comments on a proposed plan. If the State Forester does not request additional information or a modification to a wildfire mitigation plan, the plan is deemed administratively approved after a 120-day review period. If the State Forester requests additional information or a modification to a wildfire mitigation plan, the public power entity or electric utility must respond to the request and, if necessary, may revise the plan. The State Forester has 60 days after receiving a response or revised wildfire mitigation plan to consider its approval or denial and, if the State Forester does not request additional information or a modification to the revised wildfire mitigation plan, the plan is deemed

administratively approved after the 60-day review period. A wildfire mitigation plan is deemed approved during pendency of any judicial action that seeks review of the State Forester's or a governing body's approval or rejection of the plan or any portion of the plan. Any action by the State Forester and any comments on the wildfire mitigation plan provided by a county, city, town or other governmental entity are the exercise of an administrative function involving the determination of fundamental government policy.

The statutory wildfire mitigation planning requirements establish the exclusive means of recovery from a public power entity or electric utility for claims or damages resulting from wildfires, except as otherwise agreed to in writing or established by federal law. For a cause of action for negligence against a public power entity or electric utility related to wildfire, a public power entity or electric utility that acts in compliance with an approved wildfire mitigation plan is deemed to meet the standard of care for a reasonably prudent entity or utility. A public power entity or electric utility that causes a wildfire through willful, intentional or reckless misconduct is deemed to not meet the standard of care for a reasonably prudent public power entity or electric utility. A party that asserts a cause of action must prove that a failure to comply with an approved wildfire mitigation plan was the proximate cause of any loss, injury or other harm alleged. Prohibits a public power entity or electric utility from being apportioned any proportion of fault for: 1) the ignition of a wildfire from sources outside the entity's or utility's control, including lightning strikes or actions by third parties; or 2) vegetation of other wildfire risks outside the entity's or utility's right-of-way, lease or other property rights or areas in which the entity has been delayed in accessing or denied access to for purposes of performing vegetation management if the delay or denial is outside the entity's or utility's control.

Prohibits exemplary or punitive damages of any kind from being assessed against an electric utility in an action to recover damages resulting from wildfire, except that if it is established that an electric utility that is not an electric cooperative is liable for personal injury or bodily harm resulting from wildfire, such damages may be sought if the plaintiff proves by clear and convincing evidence that the utility's conduct meets outlined factors.

Allows the State Forester to adopt rules to implement the wildfire mitigation plan review and approval process and exempts the Department of Forestry and Fire Management from rulemaking requirements for one year.

~~behavioral health examiners board; continuation~~ (NOW: health boards; state agencies; continuations) ([H.B. 2313](#)) – Chapter 249 E

[SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.](#)

loan agreements; escrow ([H.B. 2345](#)) – Chapter 28

Clarifies that an escrow agent may use monies in an escrow account only to make payments as stipulated in a loan agreement, unless: 1) the loan agreement includes another expressly stated purpose for which the monies may be used; 2) a deed in lieu of foreclosure agreement specifically states another purpose for which the monies may be used; 3) an agreement is entered into by the parties to negotiate a settlement of the loan and includes a provision for the use of monies; or 4) an agreement is entered into by the parties that provides for a portion of the escrow account to be used to bring an account that is in arrears to a current status.

entrance fee; refunds; time frame ([H.B. 2370](#)) – Chapter 215

Beginning January 1, 2026, requires a facility in which life care services are provided to assign a vacated unit a sequential refund number within 60 days after receiving a resident's notice to vacate. The facility must provide refunds in order based on sequential number, subject to specified requirements. A life care contract is exempt from the sequential refund requirement if the contract was executed before January 1, 2026, or provides for the payment of a refundable portion of an entrance fee, with a maximum waiting period that does not exceed three years from when the resident vacates the unit.

cryptocurrency kiosk; license; fraud prevention ([H.B. 2387](#)) – Chapter 171

[SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.](#)

TPT; exemption; qualifying equipment; extension ([H.B. 2639](#)) – Chapter 135

Extends the transaction privilege tax deduction and use tax exemption for qualifying equipment purchased by a certified healthy forest enterprise from December 31, 2026, until December 31, 2028.

internal revenue code; conformity. ([H.B. 2688/S.B. 1222](#)) – Chapter 1

Updates the statutory definition of *Internal Revenue Code* to include all federal provisions in effect as of January 1, 2025, with the specific adoption of all retroactive effective dates.

~~cancer insurance; public safety; retirees~~ (NOW: cancer insurance; retirees; public safety) ([H.B. 2689](#)) – Chapter 208

Eliminates the October 1, 2025, repeal of the requirement for the state and political subdivisions to offer a supplement benefit plan for public safety employees who have a duty-related injury.

Beginning January 1, 2026, allows a person who did not receive covered benefits through the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) Cancer Insurance Program (CIP) to elect to continue CIP coverage after retirement by paying the cost of the premium as determined by the PSPRS Board of Trustees (PSPRS Board). A person who was already eligible for the CIP and who did not receive covered benefits after retirement may elect to continue CIP coverage by January 1, 2027. The annual premium payment for persons who were either receiving CIP benefits before retirement or who are diagnosed with cancer subsequent to retirement within the CIP eligibility time frame is equal to the amount paid by the PSPRS employer for each employee.

When determining the cost of the CIP premium for persons who elect to continue CIP coverage, the PSPRS Board must: 1) determine the cost to CIP, excluding persons who were either receiving CIP benefits before retirement or who are diagnosed with cancer subsequent to retirement within the CIP eligibility time frame; and 2) set an actuarially determined premium. The annual premium payment must be deducted from the person's pension payment at the beginning

of the plan year and the person may elect to discontinue CIP coverage within 180 days after the payment is made and request a refund of the premium. A person who elects to discontinue CIP coverage is no longer eligible for CIP coverage.

Requires the PSPRS Administrator to work with the PSPRS Advisory Committee and PSPRS's actuary to make recommendations to the PSPRS Board regarding updates to CIP plan documents to comply with outlined requirements.

tax; distribution; county stadium district ([H.B. 2704](#)) – Chapter 251

Redirects, to the Maricopa County Stadium District Fund (District Fund), specified state, city and town transaction privilege tax (TPT) and county transportation excise tax revenues collected from certain business activities at a Major League Baseball (MLB) facility or adjacent buildings that are owned by the Maricopa County Stadium District (Chase Field and its adjacent buildings) and redirects, to the District Fund, 82 percent of the state income tax from the professional baseball franchise organization domiciled in Arizona before September 26, 2025 (Arizona Diamondbacks), Arizona Diamondback employees and any professional baseball franchise organizations from outside Arizona that render services at Chase Field. Taxes diverted to the District Fund may be used only for capital repairs, reconstruction, replacement, maintenance and improvements to the infrastructure of Chase Field and its adjacent buildings.

Caps the total amount of city and town TPT revenues that are redirected to the District Fund each year at \$3,500,000 and requires the cap to be increased by three percent annually beginning in 2027 and until December 31, 2055. If the annual cap is met, the city or town must stop transmitting monies. Caps the total TPT and income tax that are redirected to the District Fund at \$500,000,000 and requires the Maricopa County Stadium District Treasurer to increase the cap by three percent annually beginning in 2027 and until December 31, 2055. The Maricopa County Stadium District Treasurer must notify the State Treasurer, the City of Phoenix and the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) if the aggregate cap is met. On receipt of the notice, the State Treasurer, the City of Phoenix and ADOR must stop transmitting the TPT and income tax. Outlines accounting requirements for ADOR.

Requires the Arizona Diamondbacks to pay any remaining Maricopa County Stadium District debts for projects to reconstruct, equip, repair, maintain or improve Chase Field and its adjacent buildings that would have been paid for by the District Fund, if: 1) the Arizona Diamondbacks leave Chase Field; or 2) the Legislature repeals the TPT and income tax diversions before January 1, 2056, due to the failure of the Arizona Diamondbacks to contribute financially to the refurbishment of Chase Field and its adjacent buildings. Prescribes monetary penalties for the Arizona Diamondbacks leaving Chase Field before 2035, 2045 or 2050 and outlines requirements for tax diversions in such circumstances. Outlines circumstances that require ownership of the real property and improvements of the Maricopa County Stadium District to be immediately and irrevocably conveyed to the City of Phoenix, at no cost.

Prescribes membership for the Maricopa County Stadium District Board in place of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors and prescribes requirements for appointment and initial terms. Prohibits the Maricopa County Stadium District Board from acquiring real property by eminent domain. Allows the Maricopa County Stadium District Board to enter into agreements

with contractors, tenants and other users of Chase Field or its adjacent buildings as determined appropriate, including agreements for reconstructing, equipping, repairing, maintaining or improving Chase Field and its adjacent buildings. Requires a two-thirds majority vote of the Maricopa County Stadium District Board to use monies for infrastructure spaces that are required for participation in the MLB.

By November 1 each year through 2055, the Maricopa County Stadium District Board must report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) and the Governor's Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) regarding all new projects for reconstructing, equipping, repairing, maintaining or improving Chase Field and its adjacent buildings that are paid from the District Fund. Requires the report to JLBC and OSPB to indicate which projects the professional baseball franchise organization contributed monies toward and the amount of the contribution.

The Legislature intends that the Arizona Diamondbacks will contribute at least \$250,000,000 for the purposes of reconstructing, equipping, repairing, maintaining or improving Chase Field and its adjacent buildings.

unclaimed property; virtual currency; security ([H.B. 2749](#)) – Chapter 150

Determines that digital assets are presumed abandoned three years after a written or electronic communication is returned to the owner as undeliverable. The three-year presumption of abandonment ceases immediately on the exercise of an act of ownership interest in the digital asset or by a written, oral or electronic communication with the holder of the digital asset that is evidenced as outlined. For abandoned property that is a digital asset reported to the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR), the holder must report and deliver the digital asset in its native form to ADOR within 30 days after reporting the property as abandoned. Any airdrops or staking rewards must be transferred to the Bitcoin and Digital Asset Reserve Fund (Reserve Fund) on the expiration of three years after the date the abandoned digital asset was transferred to a qualified custodian. Outlines requirements for ADOR when selling abandoned digital assets.

Establishes the Reserve Fund, administered by the State Treasurer, and consisting of any airdrops, staking rewards and interest. Reserve Fund monies are subject to legislative appropriation. On approval of the Legislature, the State Treasurer must deposit 10 percent of the digital assets held in the Reserve Fund in the state General Fund. The Legislature may not deposit Bitcoin into the state General Fund.

fire trucks; diesel fuel; exemption ([H.B. 2750](#)) – Chapter 151

[SEE THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.](#)

food; municipal tax; exemption ([H.C.R. 2021](#))

Subject to voter approval, statutorily caps the tax or fee that a city, town or other taxing jurisdiction may impose on the sale of food and certain beverage items intended for home consumption at two percent and prohibits the adoption or increase of the tax or fee from occurring in the 24-month period preceding June 30, 2027. If a city, town or other taxing jurisdiction has

approved a tax or fee on the sale of food and certain beverage items intended for home consumption in an amount of less than two percent on or before January 1, 2025, or has not yet approved any such tax or fee, the adoption or increase of a tax or fee is subject to voter approval. A city, town or other taxing jurisdiction that has approved a tax or fee on the sale of food and certain beverage items intended for home consumption at a rate of more than two percent on or before January 1, 2025, may not increase the tax rate. Requires the Secretary of State to submit the proposition to the voters at the next general election. Becomes effective if approved by the voters and on proclamation of the Governor, retroactive to January 1, 2025.

LEGISLATION VETOED

state agencies; payments; cryptocurrency (S.B. 1024) – VETOED

Beginning January 1, 2026, authorizes a state agency to enter into an agreement with a cryptocurrency service provider to accept cryptocurrency as a payment method for any amount due to the state agency or the state. The agreement must: 1) govern the terms and conditions on which cryptocurrency may be accepted as a form of payment; and 2) provide the manner in and conditions on which a cryptocurrency service provider must pay the state by means of cryptocurrency or U.S. dollars. If the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) enters into an agreement with a cryptocurrency service provider to accept cryptocurrency as a payment method, transaction privilege tax and municipal tax may be remitted in cryptocurrency to ADOR.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that while S.B. 1024 would allow state agencies to enter into agreements to protect the state from cryptocurrency risks, legislators on both sides of the aisle acknowledged it still leaves the door open for too much risk.

public monies; investment; virtual currency (S.B. 1025) – VETOED

Allows the State Treasurer, the Arizona State Retirement System and the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (public funds) to invest up to 10 percent of public monies under its control in virtual currency holdings. If the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury creates a strategic bitcoin reserve to store government bitcoin holdings, a public fund may store its virtual currency holdings in a secure segregated account within the strategic bitcoin reserve. Designates this legislation as the *Arizona Strategic Bitcoin Reserve Act*.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that Arizonans' retirement funds are not the place for the state to try untested investments like virtual currency.

GPLET; notice; abatement period (S.B. 1050) – VETOED

Limits the revenues that may be abated during the government property lease excise tax (GPLET) eight-year abatement period by prohibiting GPLET revenue designated for school districts from being abated. Prescribes posting requirements for GPLET leases, reports and development agreements.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1050 has the potential to stunt Arizona's economic development and negatively affect opportunity in the state.

central bank digital currency; ban (S.B. 1095) – VETOED

Prohibits federally recognized central bank digital currency (CBDC) from being: 1) used as legal tender; or 2) the subject or medium of payment of any contract, security or other similar instrument in Arizona. Excludes CBDC from the definition of *legal tender* for the purposes of all Arizona Revised Statutes, including the Uniform Commercial Code.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that a CBDC does not yet exist.

unemployment benefits; requirements; disqualifications; determinations (S.B. 1296) – VETOED

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

digital assets strategic reserve fund (S.B. 1373) – VETOED

Establishes the Digital Assets Strategic Reserve Fund (Fund), administered by the State Treasurer, and consisting of monies appropriated by the Legislature and any digital assets seized by the state. The State Treasurer may not invest more than 10 percent of deposited Fund monies in any fiscal year, but may loan digital assets from the Fund if the loan does not increase financial risk to the state.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that current volatility in the cryptocurrency market does not make a prudent fit for state General Fund monies.

tax laws; interpretation; application; hearing (S.B. 1464) – VETOED

Requires the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR), and allows an affected taxpayer, to notify the Legislature of a proposed interpretation or application of tax law that will adversely affect taxpayers before the new interpretation or application is adopted. If the Legislature holds a hearing on the application or interpretation, ADOR must provide testimony regarding its necessity.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1464 would politicize the administration of our tax code and interfere with responsibilities in the Arizona Constitution.

~~technical correction; unclaimed property; interest~~ (NOW: forfeiture; digital assets; reserve fund) (H.B. 2324) – VETOED

Establishes the Bitcoin and Digital Assets Reserve Fund (Fund), administered by the State Treasurer, and consisting of forfeited digital assets. The State Treasurer may: 1) invest, reinvest and divest Fund monies in digital assets or exchange traded funds that include digital assets; and 2) contract with a qualified custodian to hold digital assets. Classifies any digital assets or exchange traded funds as property of the state. Fund monies are subject to legislative appropriation.

Allows a court to order a person who is convicted of an offense for which forfeiture applies to forfeit any digital asset that is owned by the convicted person and used in, acquired through or traceable to the offense. A digital asset that is lawfully seized for forfeiture must be secured in a prescribed manner and may be stored in a state-approved, secure digital wallet system that is managed by authorized personnel to prevent loss, theft or unauthorized access.

For forfeitures that only involve digital assets forfeited by the Office of the Attorney General, a government agency may sell the digital asset with certain expenses and interest paid out of the sale proceeds. Digital assets must be sold through state-approved cryptocurrency exchanges or other secure platforms to ensure accurate valuation and transparency. Prescribes distributions from the sale of forfeited digital assets.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2324 disincentivizes local law enforcement from working with the state on digital asset forfeiture by removing seized assets from local jurisdictions.

unemployment insurance; benefit amounts (H.B. 2450) – VETOED

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

truth in taxation; bonds; notices (H.B. 2515) – VETOED

Adds the tax rate and estimated cost associated with each proposed capital improvement for a single-family home valued at \$400,000 to the information required to be included in an informational pamphlet for certain budget override and bond elections. Adds the estimated tax impact of an increase in property taxes on a home valued at \$400,000 to the information required to be included in a statutorily required Truth in Taxation hearing notice of tax increase. Adds, to the information required to be included in an informational pamphlet regarding a political subdivision bond election, the estimated tax impact of bond debt service for an owner-occupied residence valued at \$400,000 and a commercial property valued at \$2,000,000.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that election laws should not be changed based on the expression of messaging with which we do not agree.

written request; property locators (H.B. 2517) – VETOED

Requires an eligible person to apply for a valid four-year locator of unclaimed property registration with the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) and pay the associated fee. The Director of ADOR must determine the locator registration and renewal fees in an amount of up to \$100. Establishes the Locator Registration Fund, administered by ADOR, and consisting of monies received from registration and renewal fees. ADOR must engage in promotional and informational activities to raise awareness of unclaimed property throughout Arizona.

Specified unclaimed property information must be made available to the public in a database. A locator may not distribute unclaimed property information received from ADOR to anyone other than the property owner. When initially communicating with a potential customer, a property locator must disclose that the property location fee is a negotiable rate of up to 20 percent of the recoverable property's value. An agreement between a property locator and a customer must include a disclosure agreement and ADOR must distribute property or monies in accordance with the agreement. Disclosing confidential information in violation of these requirements is a class 1 misdemeanor and knowingly disclosing confidential information is a class 5 felony.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that ADOR works diligently to reunite Arizonans with their unclaimed property and she sees no need to have them pay for a service that the state is capable of addressing within its existing budget.

financial technology; digital assets program (H.B. 2906) – VETOED

Renames the *Regulatory Sandbox Program* as the *Financial Technology, Digital Assets and Blockchain Sandbox Program*. Modifies the definition of *innovation*, for the purposes of the program, to include digital assets.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2906 poses operational, legal and accounting challenges based on concerns expressed by county treasurers across Arizona.

qualifying tax rate; tax bill (H.B. 2920) – VETOED

Requires each county treasurer to separately state, on each property tax bill and property tax statement, a prescribed statement that includes the qualifying tax rate, the tax rate levied in a Type 03 district and any additional tax rate levied by the school district.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that property tax statements currently delineate school district taxes for operational and voter-approved purposes and school districts cannot increase property taxes unless specifically allowed by law.

Government Committee

Senator Jake Hoffman, Chairperson



Anna Nguyen, Research Analyst
Sam Rosenberg, Assistant Research Analyst
Daniel Lawler, Intern

GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

homeowner's associations; meetings; recordings (S.B. 1039) – Chapter 13

Requires the board of a condominium unit owner's association or planned community association that records a meeting that is open to members to keep a copy of the recording for at least six months and make the unedited recording available to any member upon request.

barbering and cosmetology fund; enforcement (NOW: political subdivision entity; benefits) (S.B. 1117) – Chapter 154

Allows a political subdivision entity to establish a self-insurance program or procure insurance from any insurer authorized by the Director of the Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions. Adds a political subdivision entity to the definition of *public agency* for the purposes of intergovernmental operations.

landlords; property manager; contact information. (NOW: municipalities; counties; construction hours) (S.B. 1182) – Chapter 181 E

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

townsites; trustees; board of supervisors. (S.B. 1218) – Chapter 7

[SEE THE FEDERALISM COMMITTEE.](#)

animal bites; owner contact information (S.B. 1241) – Chapter 137

Requires a person who owns or is responsible for the care of a dog that bites a person when the person is in a public place or lawfully in a private place to provide the owner's contact information to the person who suffered the dog bite.

counties; board; administrative review; approval (S.B. 1286) – Chapter 8

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

municipal development; permits; review (S.B. 1353) – Chapter 187

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

public records; notification; commercial purpose (S.B. 1372) – Chapter 102

Requires a person submitting a public records request to affirm at the time of the request that the public record is not for a commercial purpose or, if the request is for a commercial purpose, that the requesting person will provide a statement explaining the intended use.

political signs; homeowners' associations (S.B. 1378) – Chapter 103

Adds a flag to the definition of *political sign* for a condominium unit owners' association or planned community association.

common expense liens; foreclosure; amount (S.B. 1494) – Chapter 71

Modifies the conditions that allow a planned community association to foreclose on a common expense lien by increasing: 1) the minimum assessment delinquency amount from \$1,200 to \$10,000; and 2) the period of assessment delinquency from one year to 18 months.

~~municipal housing; preapproved design~~ (NOW: ~~municipal housing; preapproved design; annexation~~) (S.B. 1529) – Chapter 259

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

~~homestead exemption; equity increase~~ (NOW: ~~ancillary use; international headquarters campus~~) (S.B. 1543) – Chapter 74

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

broadband service district authority; formation (S.B. 1661) – Chapter 190

Allows a group of individuals, businesses or organizations in a county with a population between 200,000 and 210,000 persons to petition the county board of supervisors to form a broadband service district authority (authority) to: 1) facilitate the expansion and maintenance of broadband infrastructure; 2) secure and manage funding for broadband projects; 3) establish guidelines and goals for broadband performance and accessibility; and 4) support policies and initiatives that promote broadband deployment. An authority may receive funding from government agencies, private organizations or certain service fees.

An authority may not deploy last mile residential broadband or levy any new taxes except an authority may collect and remit applicable taxes. An authority is deemed as a public, political and municipal corporation to the extent of the powers and privileges provided and as generally granted to municipal corporations by Arizona law, including immunity of the authority's property and revenue taxation. Outlines authority petition and application procedures and governing board membership, powers, duties and reporting requirements.

prohibit tax; monitoring; vehicle mileage (S.C.R. 1004/H.C.R. 2035)

Subject to voter approval, constitutionally prohibits the state and any county, city, town, municipal corporation or political subdivision (public entity) from: 1) imposing a tax or fee based on vehicle miles traveled by a person in a motor vehicle; or 2) enacting any rule or law to monitor or limit the vehicle miles traveled by a person in a motor vehicle, unless the rule or law requires the person to voluntarily consent to the monitoring or limitation. The prohibition does not apply to an interstate agreement established to administer the payment or reporting of fuel taxes or registration fees for commercial vehicles that operate in more than one state or a motor vehicle owned and operated by a public entity. Requires the Secretary of State to submit the proposition to the voters at the next general election. Becomes effective if approved by the voters and on proclamation of the Governor.

development; adaptive reuse; rezoning; prohibition (H.B. 2110) – Chapter 41 E

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

advisory committee; subcommittee; exemption (H.B. 2231) – Chapter 168

Adds, to the exemptions from open meeting law, the exchange of communications among a quorum of a three-member advisory committee or subcommittee that involves a discussion or deliberation concerning a matter before the advisory committee or subcommittee. The three-member advisory committee or subcommittee may not include more than one member who is a member of any public body.

~~behavioral health examiners board; continuation~~ (NOW: health boards; state agencies; continuations) (H.B. 2313) – Chapter 249 E

[SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.](#)

condominiums; commercial structures; residential structures (H.B. 2322) – Chapter 46

Requires a condominium that includes one or more commercial structures that are separate from one or more residential structures to assess any common expense that exclusively benefits the residential or commercial structures against the respective residential or commercial units. Any common expense that benefits both the commercial and residential structures must be assessed in proportion to the category of the structure benefited and be assessed against the respective residential or commercial units on a pro rata basis.

~~cell phone carrier; spam calls~~ (NOW: blockchain technology; regulation; computational power) (H.B. 2342) – Chapter 81

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

notaries; businesses; prohibition ([H.B. 2344](#)) – Chapter 169

Stipulates that, if an entity does not provide an option to notarize documents at a physical location without charge or cost, an individual seeking notarization may use the services of any notarial officer who is authorized to perform the notarial act.

auditor general; records; financial institutions ([H.B. 2368](#)) – Chapter 133

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

auditor general; county treasurer; review ([H.B. 2369](#)) – Chapter 250

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

self-certification program; administrative review ([H.B. 2447](#)) – Chapter 31

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

employment; prohibitions; corporation commission ([H.B. 2518](#)) – Chapter 134

Prohibits a public service corporation or public power entity regulated by the Arizona Corporation Commission from employing or entering into an independent contractor agreement with an individual who served as a commissioner in the preceding two calendar years.

unclaimed property; virtual currency; security ([H.B. 2749](#)) – Chapter 150

[SEE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.](#)

accessory dwelling units; requirements ([H.B. 2928](#)) – Chapter 217

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

LEGISLATION VETOED

public resources; influencing elections; penalties ([S.B. 1036](#)) – VETOED

Specifies that a resident of a county may initiate a suit in the superior court for an alleged violation of the prohibition against a city, town, county or school district using public resources to influence an election. Collected civil penalties must be paid to the resident who initiated the suit.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1036 is too broad and subjective and that it opens the door to infringe on First Amendment rights and general public disclosure.

ADWR; hydrology reports (NOW: government; compliance; immigration; deportation) (S.B. 1088) – VETOED

Requires, until January 1, 2029, the state and a city, town, county and state agency (public entity), and an independent contractor of a public entity, to comply with all federal laws, rules, regulations and orders relating to immigration and deportation and to cooperate with federal agencies for the purposes of federal immigration and deportation compliance. A contract between a public entity and an independent contractor must contain a provision that voids the contract if the contractor violates the prescribed compliance requirements.

The Attorney General must investigate a city, town or county on the request of a member of the Legislature for an alleged violation of the compliance requirements. A state agency that violates the compliance requirements must deposit 10 percent of the agency's funding for that fiscal year into the state General Fund within 30 days of the violation. Any person may bring a private right of action against a public entity to enforce the compliance requirements.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1088 would force state and local officials to take marching orders from the federal administration and that she will continue to work productively with the federal government on true border security.

business; discrimination prohibition; social criteria (S.B. 1094) – VETOED

Prohibits a financial institution, insurer or credit reporting agency doing business in Arizona from discriminating against any person based on: 1) a political affiliation; or 2) other social credit, environmental, social or governmental score or similar values-based or impact criteria. A financial institution may offer investments, products or services to a potential customer or investor that include subjective standards if the standards are fully disclosed and explained before entering into a contract. The prohibition does not interfere with a financial institution's, insurer's or credit reporting agency's ability to discontinue or refuse to conduct business with a person when the action is necessary for the physical safety of its employees.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1094 is detrimental, ineffective, nonsensical and objectionable.

diversity; equity; inclusion; training; prohibition (S.B. 1256) – VETOED

Prohibits the state or a state agency, board, commission or department from: 1) using a diversity, equity and inclusion program (DEI program) for hiring, training or promotion; 2) requiring an employee to engage in a DEI program; or 3) requiring, as a condition of a contract, participation in a DEI program. The Arizona Department of Administration must monitor the hiring practices of the state and a state agency, board, commission or department to ensure that DEI programs are not used to hire, train or promote an employee.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1256 is detrimental, ineffective, nonsensical and objectionable.

state broadband office; transfer; ADOA (S.B. 1322) – VETOED

Transfers administration of the State Broadband Office from the Arizona Commerce Authority to the Arizona Department of Administration.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1322 would delay deployment of critical high-speed internet infrastructure and access to communities across the state that have been excluded from the digital economy.

corporation commission; non-thermal generating unit (S.B. 1538) – VETOED

[SEE THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.](#)

document retention; proposals; donations (S.B. 1612) – VETOED

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

legislative appointments; qualifications (S.B. 1649) – VETOED

Removes eligibility requirements for members who are appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and Senate President to: 1) the Livestock Loss Board; 2) the Military Affairs Commission; 3) the Arizona Tea Party Committee; 4) the Economic Estimates Commission; 5) the Joint Legislative Audit Committee; 6) the Ombudsman-Citizen Aide Selection Committee; 7) the Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission; 8) the board of directors for a theme park district; 9) the Organizing Board for the Upper San Pedro Water District; and 10) a small business stationary source technical and compliance advisory panel.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that she agrees that appointments made by elected officials should be based on qualifications and subject matter expertise.

sex-based terms; laws; rules; regulations (H.B. 2062) – VETOED

Requires any policy, program, rule or law that prohibits sex discrimination to also prohibit the unfair treatment of a female or male in relation to a similarly situated member of the opposite sex. Specifies that the term *sex*: 1) means a person's biological sex, either male or female, at birth; 2) only includes two sexes and every individual is either a male or female; 3) is objective and fixed; and 4) does not include gender identity or any other term intended to convey a person's subjective sense of self and may not be used as a synonym or substitute for the term *sex*.

The state or a political subdivision may provide a separate single-sex environment for a male or female if the sexes are not similarly situated, particularly with respect to biology. Requires the state, state agencies, political subdivisions, public schools and school districts that collect vital statistics related to sex to identify each natural person in a collected data set as either male or female. Designates this legislation as the *Arizona Sex-based Terms Act*.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2062 will not lower costs, increase opportunity or enhance security or freedom for Arizonans.

land divisions; disclosure affidavit; recording ([H.B. 2092](#)) – VETOED

Modifies the contents of an affidavit of disclosure (affidavit) for the sale of parcels of land in an unincorporated area by adding : 1) whether a property's private well is registered with the Arizona Department of Water Resources and has a pump completion report on file; 2) the date the on-site wastewater treatment facility was last inspected; 3) for an on-site wastewater treatment facility that is a standard septic system, the date the facility was last pumped; and 4) a statement exempting sellers from providing an affidavit if the property was sold pursuant to a trustee's sale, execution sale or mortgage foreclosure or by a personal representative of an estate and advising the buyer to investigate unknown items. Adds a prescribed disclaimer to the notice to a buyer of a property served by a well.

On the request, direction or instruction of the seller, a licensed escrow agent for a transaction must record the executed affidavit at the same time that the deed is recorded. A licensed escrow agent who records an affidavit is not liable for any inaccurate information in the affidavit.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2092 would exempt certain property sellers from providing an affidavit. The Governor states that it is unclear why it would be in the public interest to allow for available details about a property to be withheld from a prospective buyer and that all buyers deserve transparency.

law enforcement; defunding; prohibition ([H.B. 2221](#)) – VETOED

Declares the regulation of funding a municipal police department as a matter of statewide concern, preempts a municipality from reducing a municipal police department's annual operating budget below the previous year's budget and exempts certain municipalities from the preemption. Upon notice of an operating budget reduction, the State Treasurer must withhold state shared monies from the municipality in an amount equal to the municipal police department's budget reduction. The State Treasurer must continue to withhold state shared monies from a municipality until the State Treasurer receives notification that the reduction has been restored.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that she has consistently advocated for increased funding for law enforcement, but H.B. 2221 undermines local decision making which is needed for public safety agencies to operate effectively.

~~elevator contractors; elevator mechanics; regulation~~ (NOW: corporation commission; lobbying; prohibition) ([H.B. 2233](#)) – VETOED

Requires the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC), before the ACC, ACC Staff or any registered lobbyist on behalf of the ACC may advocate for or against any federal or state legislation, regulation or rule, to: 1) take a majority vote at a public meeting; and 2) publish the ACC's position on its website and the Arizona Legislative Information System or another comparable system used by the Legislature or the Governor's Regulatory Review Council to track bills and public support or opposition to legislation. At the request of one or more members of the Legislature, the Attorney General must investigate whether the ACC or an ACC Commissioner violated the vote requirement. The ACC or an ACC Commissioner who violates the advocacy requirement is subject to a civil penalty of \$500 for each instance of noncompliance.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that stifling an agency's ability to provide necessary feedback on legislation that impacts their work is detrimental to developing responsible legislation.

website information; pregnant women (H.B. 2439) – VETOED

Requires, by December 1, 2025, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) to provide a list of pregnancy support agencies and outlined information on adoption agencies and services on the AHCCCS website in English and Spanish. Prohibits agencies that counsel, refer, perform, induce, prescribe or provide abortions from inclusion on the AHCCCS website.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2439 limits access to abortion and information on the full spectrum of reproductive health choices available to Arizona women.

state contracts; foreign adversary; prohibition (H.B. 2542) – VETOED

Prohibits a company domiciled in the People's Republic of China from bidding on, submitting a proposal for or entering into a contract with a state agency for goods or services. Each company that submits a bid or proposal for a state contract for goods or services must certify to the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) that the company is not domiciled in the People's Republic of China. Upon determination by ADOA that a company has submitted a false certification letter: 1) the company is liable for a civil penalty of \$100,000; 2) the state agency or ADOA must terminate the contract with the company; and 3) the company may not bid for any state contracts for at least 60 months. A state agency may enter into a contract for goods manufactured by a company domiciled in the People's Republic of China in certain circumstances. Exempts the Department of Public Safety from the prohibition. Designates this legislation as the *Protection Procurement Act*.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2542 would dramatically increase costs to taxpayers when purchasing good and services.

small land subdivision; requirements (H.B. 2574) – VETOED

Allows each county board of supervisors to adopt ordinances and regulations that allow for small land subdivisions of 6 to 10 lots or parcels sized two acres or more that are not subject to an assured water supply requirement or mandatory adequate water supply requirement. Outlines small land subdivision application requirements.

Before offering land within a small land subdivision for sale or lease, a small land subdivider must notify the State Real Estate Commissioner (Commissioner) of the intention in a prescribed small land subdivision report notice. On receipt of a small land subdivision public report and unless there are grounds for denial, the Commissioner must ensure completeness and issue a registration of the small land subdivision public report allowing the sale or lease of the lots or parcels that are the subject of the small land subdivision.

Subjects a small land subdivision to adequate water supply evaluation. A small land subdivider that sells or leases any lots or parcels in a small land subdivision without first obtaining a registration of a small land subdivision public report is subject to a civil penalty in an amount up to \$5,000 for each infraction. A proceeding to impose a civil penalty or suspend or revoke a license for a registration violation must be commenced within five years after actual discovery by the Arizona Department of Real Estate.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2574 would not make a difference in solving the water policy challenges that Arizona residents and communities are facing today.

notice; violation; deficiency correction (H.B. 2576) – VETOED

Specifies that, for the purpose of an inspection or audit of a regulated person, a state agency may only take a lawful enforcement action if the regulated person fails to correct the alleged deficiencies or the agency determines that the alleged deficiencies have not been corrected within a reasonable time period, unless otherwise required by state or federal law. A state agency must provide a regulated person an opportunity to correct the alleged deficiencies unless the agency documents in the inspection report or violation notice that the alleged deficiencies meet certain noncompliance or risk categories. A state agency that alleges noncompliance with licensure or regulatory requirements must provide a notice of an opportunity to correct or a violation notice, rather than a notice of allegations. The requirement for a written notice of an opportunity to correct or a violation notice only applies to inspections, rather than both inspections and investigations.

An issuance of a notice is not a prerequisite to otherwise lawful agency actions to comply with a requirement of federal law if the agency determines that the action is necessary on an expedited basis to abate an imminent and substantial endangerment to public health or the environment. Within 30 days after receiving notification that alleged deficiencies have been corrected, the state agency must determine if the regulated person is in substantial compliance and notify the regulated person whether the regulated person is in substantial compliance.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2576 harms the ability of state agencies to conduct inspections, compliance and enforcement programs, threatening the health and safety of Arizona consumers.

narcotic injection sites; zoning; prohibition (H.B. 2798) – VETOED

Prohibits a municipality or county from adopting an ordinance, regulation or overlay zoning district that would allow for the development of a narcotics injection site.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that narcotic injection sites are nonexistent in Arizona and that she encourages the Legislature to seek common sense solutions to help Arizonans struggling with substance abuse disorder.

mixed hoteling; signage; requirements (H.B. 2803) – VETOED

Prohibits state or local monies from being used for mixed hoteling. A homeless service provider, building supervisor or building owner of a hotel that engages in mixed hoteling must:

- 1) prominently post a prescribed statement that informs the reader that the business houses

homeless individuals alongside the general public; 2) provide each guest a printed form stating that the hotel is engaging in mixed hoteling before checking in; and 3) post the prescribed signs over each building entrance and exit and in a place clearly visible from the reception desk. Any guest who objects to mixed hoteling before checking into the hotel must be issued a full refund.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2803 micromanages local businesses who have stepped up to help address Arizona's housing challenges and that the Legislature should instead engage in more productive efforts to create more transitional and affordable housing options across Arizona.

~~legislative subpoena; refusal; contempt~~ (NOW: legislative subpoena; perjury; refusal; contempt) ([H.B. 2824](#)) – VETOED

Deems all testimony produced pursuant to legislative proceedings as sworn testimony under penalty of perjury. Allows a legislative committee to hold a witness in contempt for neglecting to obey a legislative subpoena if an order of contempt is issued by the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House Representatives or any committee chairperson for failure to comply with the subpoena after the witness is given an opportunity for a hearing to present evidence as to why the witness is not in contempt.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2824 weaponizes the power of the Legislature in a way that could be used to intimidate Arizonans. The Governor states that holding someone in contempt is a very serious matter that is best left to be determined by the entire body rather than any one legislator.

~~preferential treatment; discrimination; policies~~ (NOW: discrimination; policies; preferential treatment) ([H.B. 2868](#)) – VETOED

Prohibits the state or a state agency, city, town, county, community college district governing board or university under the jurisdiction of the Arizona Board of Regents from: 1) establishing or maintaining a diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) office; 2) hiring or assigning an employee or contracting with a third party to perform the duties of a DEI office; 3) compelling, requiring, inducing or soliciting any person to provide a DEI statement or giving preferential consideration to any person based on the provision of a DEI statement; 4) giving preference on the basis of race, sex, color or ethnicity; 5) requiring as a condition of employment or enrollment any person to participate in DEI training; or 6) requiring an academic course that promotes the tenants of DEI or the activities of a DEI office. The state or a state agency, city, town, county, community college district governing board or state university must adopt policies and procedures for appropriately disciplining an employee or contractor that engages in conduct in violation of the DEI prohibitions. Any student or employee of a community college or state university who is required to participate in any training that violates the DEI prohibitions may bring an action against the institution for injunctive or declaratory relief.

A community college or state university may not spend monies appropriated to the institution in any given fiscal year until the institution submits to the Legislature a report that certifies the institution's compliance with the DEI prohibitions during the preceding fiscal year.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2868 would jeopardize the state universities' and community colleges' continued stability, leading to negative effects on the state's workforce and economy.

task order contracts; website; posting (H.B. 2895) – VETOED

Requires a state governmental unit, school district, city, town or county that enters into a task order contract with a contractor in Arizona to conspicuously post the contract on its website. A contractor may redact any personal or proprietary information from the contract before the contract is posted on the website, except that the governmental entity may not redact: 1) the amount of the contract; 2) the contractor's identity; 3) a description of the services that will be performed under the contract; and 4) the contract length.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2895 is too broad and would hinder the state's ability to receive services necessary to support Arizonans.

public meetings; records; requirements; penalties (H.B. 2927) – VETOED

Modifies requirements relating to open meeting law and public records requests by: 1) requiring the minutes or recording of a public meeting to be available online for public inspection within three working days after the meeting and to remain available online for public inspection indefinitely; 2) requiring a public body that holds a meeting exclusively through technological devices to provide the public with an option to view the meeting both remotely and at a physical location; 3) subjecting a public meeting held through technological devices to the requirement for the agenda to include the time that the public will have physical access to the meeting place; and 4) allowing members of the public who are present at the designated physical location to participate in the meeting if the public body makes a call to the public or takes testimony on a specific item. The Attorney General must respond to an open meeting law complaint within 120 days after receiving the complaint.

Copies of public records must be provided on request in the least expensive manner possible with a preference for providing electronic copies. The court must review de novo any question of law that arises regarding public records.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that the Legislature changed rules to allow its own public records to be discarded after 90 days, making it unclear why H.B. 2927 attempts to hold others to a more lengthy and costly public records standard.

Health & Human Services Committee

Senator Carine Werner, Chairperson



Michael Madden, Research Analyst
Kaytie Sherman, Assistant Research Analyst
Allison Okonoski, Intern

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

audiologists; speech-language pathologists; compact ([S.B. 1075](#)) – Chapter 179

Adopts the Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists Compact (Compact), which allows licensed audiologists and speech-language pathologists to obtain licensure in other Compact states. Outlines Compact privilege terms, requirements for state inclusion in the Compact, procedures for obtaining multistate licensure and procedures for Compact states to impose adverse actions against licensees that violate the terms of the license or Compact. Prescribes requirements for oversight, dispute resolution and enforcement.

Establishes the Compact Commission (Commission) as an instrumentality of the Compact states and grants the Commission rulemaking authority as prescribed. Outlines Commission: 1) membership, powers, duties and financing; 2) public meeting, rulemaking and recordkeeping requirements; 3) utilization and development of a coordinated data system; and 4) requirements for qualified immunity, defense and indemnification.

Outlines Compact withdrawal and amendment procedures and becomes effective on the date on which the Compact is adopted by a 10th member state.

pharmacy benefits; prescribing; exemption ([S.B. 1102](#)) – Chapter 5

Prohibits a pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) from limiting or excluding prescription drug coverage for any covered individual who is on a specific prescription drug through the end of the individual's plan year if the drug was previously approved for coverage for the individual and the individual remained subscribed to the insurance policy. If an individual's health care provider notifies a PBM or health insurer that the individual will continue on a particular, previously covered, prescription drug through the end of the plan year, the PBM or insurer may not change the individual to a different drug. If a health insurer or PBM makes a formulary change that limits or excludes prescription drug coverage, notice must be provided to all impacted covered individuals and their health care providers at least 60 days before the change.

For contracts entered into, amended, extended or renewed beginning January 1, 2026, establishes a formulary prescription drug exception process by which covered individuals and their health care provider may file a request for continued coverage of a specific drug after the end of the plan year if certain conditions apply. Outlines the formulary prescription drug exception process, including required timelines and the circumstances that require a PBM or health insurer to approve an exception for coverage of a noncovered prescription drug. Prescribes PBM and health insurer formulary exception denial requirements and appeal procedures. Allows the Director of the Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions to take enforcement action against a PBM, health insurer or utilization review agent in violation of these requirements.

medical marijuana dispensaries; location ([S.B. 1105](#)) – Chapter 6 RFEIR

Subject to the requirements for enactment for initiatives and referendums (Proposition 105), which requires the affirmative vote of at least three-fourths of the members of each house of the Legislature, prohibits a nonprofit medical marijuana dispensary or cultivation site from being located within 500 feet of a childcare facility or facility that provides preschool programs and prohibits a city, town or county from entering any ordinance, regulation or rule that allows a marijuana establishment to be located within 500 feet of a public school, private school, childcare facility or facility that provides preschool programs. The location restrictions only apply to nonprofit medical marijuana dispensary certificates and marijuana establishment licenses issued beginning September 26, 2025.

dental board; oral preventive assistants ([S.B. 1124](#)) – Chapter 17

Establishes a pathway for a dental assistant who meets outlined requirements to practice as an oral preventative assistant (OPA) upon completion of a training course approved by the Arizona State Board of Dental Examiners (BODEX) that includes at least 120 hours of didactic and clinical instruction with patients. An OPA may treat periodontally healthy patients or patients with localized mild gingivitis who have first received a periodontal evaluation by a dentist or dental hygienist through the removal of plaque, calculus and stains with scalers or sonic or ultrasonic scaling devices. An OPA may not practice outside the direct supervision of a dentist or dental hygienist or use an air polishing device or practice on patients who are medically compromised, under sedation or have been treated for periodontal disease or generalized recession. A dentist is limited to supervising three OPAs at a time, while dental hygienists are limited to supervising one OPA. Any dentist or dental hygienist who allows an OPA to perform coronal calculus removal services outside statutory authority has committed unprofessional conduct. BODEX must coordinate with a statewide association representing dentists in Arizona to collect specified data regarding OPAs and report the data to specified individuals by January 1, 2029.

AHCCCS; continuous glucose monitors ([S.B. 1132](#)) – Chapter 180

Requires Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) contractors to provide AHCCCS members with continuous glucose monitors (CGM) through a pharmacy benefit and a durable medical equipment benefit and to allow the member's prescribing provider to determine which option is appropriate for that member. The coverage criteria for CGMs must be: 1) consistent between the pharmacy benefit and durable medical equipment benefit; 2) updated by AHCCCS to align with the current standards of care; and 3) publicly posted as a standalone document on AHCCCS's website.

veterans; emergency admission; transport ([S.B. 1163](#)) – Chapter 62 E

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

behavioral health facilities; accreditation (S.B. 1219) – Chapter 64

Requires a behavioral health outpatient treatment center that is a service provider for the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System or a regional behavioral health authority to include on its patient intake form the license number or name and address of the sober living home in which the patient is living, if applicable. Requires the Department of Health Services (DHS) to provide a priority matrix for complaints filed against health care institutions on its public website detailing the various levels of complaints, processes for determining the complaint level assignment and the time frames for initiating a complaint investigation. DHS must implement: 1) an annual training program for licensing surveyors, supervisors and managers to ensure compliance with health care institution statutes; and 2) an annual process to assess practical knowledge and understanding of each training module.

~~Arizona teachers academy; community colleges~~ (NOW: tobacco use; sale; minimum age) (S.B. 1247) – Chapter 228

Conforms the state minimum legal age to buy, possess or knowingly accept a tobacco or vapor product or instrument to the federal minimum legal age of 21 years old.

A person who is 18 years old may possess, accept, receive or use a tobacco or vapor product or instrument, only if: 1) the person is a current member of the National Guard or the U.S. Armed Forces and holds a valid military identification card; and 2) the use or possession is allowed by the regulations and policies of the U.S. Department of Defense or the U.S. Armed Forces branch in which the person serves.

~~health insurers; provider; payment; claims~~ (NOW: health insurers; provider credentialing; claims) (S.B. 1291) – Chapter 97

Beginning April 1, 2026, requires a health insurer to conclude the health care provider credentialing process within 60 calendar days and to load an applicant's information into the billing system within 30 days after receiving a complete credentialing application. Within seven calendar days of receiving a credentialing application, a health insurer must contact the applicant to acknowledge receipt of the application and, if incomplete, include a detailed list of all incomplete items. If the time period for processing of a credentialing application is tolled while the health insurer waits for additional information, the insurer must acknowledge the receipt of the additional information within seven calendar days. A health insurer may not toll an application more than three times. If after the third toll a health insurer has not received additional information for an incomplete application within 30 calendar days, the insurer may deem the application withdrawn and must inform the applicant of the withdrawal within seven calendar days.

A health care provider may receive payment from a health insurer for services provided from the date included on the notice of complete credentialing application to the date the provider's network participation contract is executed. Claims submitted within one year after the date of service cannot be denied on the basis that the claim was not submitted within the contractually required time period if they were submitted in compliance with statutory requirements. A health insurer is not required to reimburse an applicant at the in-network rate for any covered medical services provided by the applicant if the applicant's credentialing application is not approved or the health care provider is unwilling to contract with the insurer on mutually acceptable terms.

sober living homes (S.B. 1308) – Chapter 66

Modifies requirements for the Department of Health Services (DHS) relating to the licensing, oversight and regulation of sober living homes. Requires DHS standards and requirements for the licensure of sober living homes to include policies and procedures to implement when a license is suspended or revoked. Prescribes requirements for DHS minimum health and safety standards of sober living homes and outlines the circumstances in which DHS or a third-party contractor must conduct a physical, on-site inspection of a sober living home to verify compliance with sober living home regulations.

If a sober living home operator or employee violates sober living home regulations, commits a felony related to the sober living home or provides false information required by law, the Director of DHS (Director) may take action to suspend or revoke the home's license. The Director may also take further disciplinary action, including legal action, against a sober living home under specified circumstances. A noncompliant sober living home is granted the opportunity to make corrections, reestablish compliance and have sanctions removed after a follow-up inspection by DHS demonstrates compliance with statute and rules. Increases the maximum penalty for each violation of sober living home regulations from \$500 to \$1,000 and requires DHS to consider outlined factors in determining the appropriate amount of the penalty.

DHS must notify a local jurisdiction of all initial sober living home licenses issued in that jurisdiction in the preceding month if the local jurisdiction provides necessary contact information. A sober living home must obtain and maintain current documentation from the local jurisdiction verifying compliance with all local zoning, building, fire and licensing ordinances and rules and provide the documentation to DHS as prescribed. DHS must notify a political subdivision that requests a complaint status update within five business days, including copies of investigative reports.

Requires a certified sober living home to be licensed and prescribes requirements for licensure without inspection by DHS. Establishes fingerprint clearance card requirements for sober living homes that receive government-funded referrals or public funding.

child fatality; maternal mortality (S.B. 1316) – Chapter 98

Establishes the Maternal Mortality Review Program (MMR Program) consisting of members and staff of the Maternal Mortality Review Committee (Committee) and transfers the responsibility to evaluate the incidence, causes and preventability of maternal fatalities associated with pregnancy in Arizona from the State Child Fatality Review Team to the MMR Program. The MMR Program must: 1) coordinate and facilitate case reviews by the Committee; 2) develop a data collection system for maternal fatalities; 3) provide training to cooperating agencies and individuals relating to identification, review and dissemination processes; 4) produce a statistical report on the incidence and causes of pregnancy-related deaths in Arizona by May 15 of each even-numbered year and submit the report as prescribed; and 5) study the adequacy of statutes, ordinances, rules, training and services to determine which changes are needed to decrease the incidence of preventable maternal fatalities.

Requires the Director of the Department of Health Services to appoint Committee members and outlines minimum membership requirements. The Committee must collaborate with the MMR Program to produce prevention recommendations that address the contributing factors that lead to preventable pregnancy-associated deaths. MMR Program members, persons attending MMR Program meetings and persons who present information to the MMR Program may not be questioned in civil or criminal proceedings related to information presented or opinions formed as a result of the MMR Program meeting.

congregate care; dependent children; placement ([S.B. 1333](#)) – Chapter 67

Requires the Department of Child Safety (DCS) to establish the minimum number of licensed foster homes sufficient to best meet the needs of foster children. DCS must categorize the minimum number of licensed foster homes by categories of need, including for foster children who: 1) have developmental disabilities; 2) have behavioral or emotional needs; 3) have medically complex conditions; 4) are over 13 years old; and 5) are part of a sibling group of three or more foster children. A licensed group foster home that will administer medication to children placed in the home must develop policies and procedures that identify how the home will manage administering the medication to the child. DCS may require a group foster home to employ additional staff and modify the home's policies to accommodate a medically complex child's needs.

Within 30 days after placing a child in a congregate care setting, DCS must work with the child and the child's attorney, family and service team to establish a plan to place the child in an appropriate family-like setting and develop a congregate care implementation plan to ensure the child's needs are appropriately met while placed in congregate care. Within 48 hours of placing a medically complex child in a group home, DCS must conduct an on-site visit to ensure all staff members have proper training. A licensed behavioral health facility may not refuse or deny placement of a foster child who is in the care and custody of DCS and has been approved for placement in the facility, subject to bed availability, if the child meets outlined criteria. Outlines congregate care reporting requirements.

newborn screening program ([S.B. 1344](#)) – Chapter 68

Waives the requirement for new congenital disorders to be added to the state's newborn screening panel within two years of being added to the federal Recommended Uniform Screening Panel if laboratory testing is required to identify the disorder but there is not yet a commercially available test approved or authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

evaluation agencies; hearings; witnesses ([S.B. 1354](#)) – Chapter 20

Specifies that the evidence presented by a petitioner or patient in a hearing for court-ordered treatment must include, in addition to the testimony of the health professionals who participated in the patient's evaluation, the testimony of two or more witnesses, regardless of professional licensure, who observed or knew the patient at the time of the alleged mental disorder and before the submission of the current application for court-ordered evaluation. If the witness is testifying after the submission of the current application, the witness must not have been a formal participant in the evaluation process.

authorized recipients; donated medicine; information (S.B. 1377) – Chapter 139

Allows an authorized recipient of donated medicine, the Department of Health Services, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System and each health profession regulatory board to post on its public website where and how to donate medicine, who is eligible to donate medicine and where to access donated medicine.

~~international medical graduates; requirements~~ (NOW: requirements; international medical graduates) (S.B. 1395) – Chapter 140

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

DCS information; central registry; exceptions (S.B. 1438) – Chapter 160

Requires the Department of Child Safety (DCS) to provide all DCS and central registry information to the Board of Fingerprinting for the purpose of determining central registry exceptions. Any person who knowingly discloses confidential DCS or central registry information is guilty of a class 5 felony.

epinephrine delivery systems (S.B. 1440) – Chapter 104

Replaces statutory references to the term *epinephrine auto-injectors* with the term *epinephrine delivery system*. A first responder trained in administering epinephrine injections may administer an epinephrine delivery system to a person experiencing anaphylaxis. An *epinephrine delivery system* is a single-use device or product that contains a premeasured dose of epinephrine and that is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to prevent or treat a life-threatening allergic reaction.

occupational boards; renewal extension (S.B. 1527) – Chapter 110

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

transitional housing; reentry programs; licensure (S.B. 1537) – Chapter 260

Establishes a regulatory system for the licensing and operation of transitional housing facilities that provide temporary living arrangements and basic living necessities to individuals transitioning from incarceration to independent living. The Director of the Department of Health Services (DHS) must adopt rules to establish minimum standards and requirements for the licensure of transitional housing facilities as necessary to ensure the public health, safety and welfare, including requirements for each transitional housing facility to develop policies to promote reentry of incarcerated individuals into society and policies to require abstinence from alcohol and illicit drugs. A transitional housing facility license only applies to the establishment, operation and maintenance of the facility, does not expire and remains valid unless DHS revokes or suspends the license or the license is voided because of delinquent payments.

DHS must conduct annual inspections to verify transitional housing facility compliance with applicable statutes and rules. Outlines procedures for the investigation and disciplining of noncompliant transitional housing facilities, including an assessment of a daily civil penalty of up to \$1,000 on any facility in violation of statute or rules or on a person or organization operating a transitional housing facility without a license. A transitional housing facility that knowingly operates without a license is subject to a class 6 felony.

Transitional housing facility staff, contractors and volunteers must satisfy annual continuing education and training requirements established by DHS and follow prescribed guidelines and requirements. DHS must post specified information on its website regarding each transitional housing facility. Any transitional housing facility that was licensed as a sober living home before the effective date of DHS rules governing transitional housing facilities must become licensed as a transitional housing facility within 30 days.

~~psilocybin services; regulation; licensure~~ (NOW: approved medication; rescheduling; controlled substance) ([S.B. 1555](#)) – Chapter 231

Conditional on federal approval of crystalline polymorph psilocybin as a prescription medication by January 1, 2031, declares that any pharmaceutical composition of crystalline polymorph psilocybin that is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and rescheduled as a controlled substance other than schedule I is a controlled substance and may be prescribed in Arizona. If approved and rescheduled, the Legislature intends for Arizona patients to have rapid access to crystalline polymorph psilocybin treatment.

~~mental health; autism; insurance coverage~~ ([S.B. 1590](#)) – Chapter 142

[SEE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.](#)

~~licensed secure facility; incompetent defendants~~ (NOW: licensed secure health facility; defendants) ([S.B. 1604](#)) – Chapter 113

Prohibits a patient who is civilly committed to treatment from being treated at a secure behavioral health residential facility that treats patients who are found dangerous and incompetent to stand trial in a criminal proceeding and who are court ordered to involuntary treatment.

~~health insurance; surprise billing; disputes~~ ([S.B. 1626](#)) – Chapter 114

Specifies that requirements related to providing notice to a health insurance enrollee regarding the enrollee's statutory right to dispute surprise out of network medical billing only applies to dispute resolution claims that are not subject to an independent dispute resolution under the federal No Surprises Act.

~~AHCCCS; obesity treatment; study committee~~ ([S.B. 1711](#)) – Chapter 218

Establishes the 11-member Obesity Treatment Study Committee (Study Committee) to study the cost, potential savings, effectiveness, health outcomes and value of expanding coverage

under the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) to include comprehensive treatment for people living with obesity. Outlines Study Committee membership and requires the Study Committee to: 1) conduct a comprehensive study; 2) identify resources or policy initiatives that would enhance public health and reduce costs associated with treating people living with obesity; 3) review current policies and practices and propose revisions to AHCCCS to improve outcomes for people living with obesity; and 4) submit a report detailing the Study Committee's activities, findings and recommendations to the Governor, Legislature and Secretary of State by December 31, 2025. Terminates the Study Committee on October 1, 2026.

~~behavioral health; temporary licensure; graduates~~ (NOW: behavioral health; graduates; license exemption) (H.B. 2001) – Chapter 118

Provides a 90-day licensure exemption for a college graduate who is in the process of applying for an associate level behavior health professional license, possesses a valid fingerprint clearance card and has completed an accredited course of study in social work, counseling, marriage and family therapy or addiction counseling. During the exemption period, the person must practice under the qualified supervision of the person who supervised the prospective licensee during the course of study or internship. Any direct client contact work experience obtained during the exemption period may be applied toward the person's direct client contact work experience required for licensure.

~~medical assistants; scope of practice~~ (NOW: scope of practice; medical assistants) (H.B. 2025) – Chapter 21

Allows a medical assistant who has received appropriate training to place and remove urinary catheters under the general supervision of a physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist or certified nurse midwife. *General supervision* is a procedure or service provided under the overall direction and control of an authorized supervisor without the presence of the supervisor required during the performance of the service or procedure.

~~dental board; formal hearings~~ (NOW: dental board; hearings; hygienist supervision) (H.B. 2026) – Chapter 119

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

child care facilities; program providers (H.B. 2066) – Chapter 48

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

guardianship; minors; appointment; notice (H.B. 2079) – Chapter 79

[SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.](#)

forced organ harvesting; insurance; prohibition (H.B. 2109) – Chapter 130

Allows a health insurer and the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System, subject to approval from the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, to limit coverage for a human organ transplant or post-transplant care if the transplant operation is performed in, or the transplant organ was procured by a sale or donation originating in, the People's Republic of China or the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. The authorization to limit coverage does not require coverage for human organ transplants or limit an insurer from denying coverage for a valid reason.

nurses; provisional licensure (H.B. 2133) – Chapter 223

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

dental board; licensure; renewal (NOW: medical records; destruction; classification) (H.B. 2137) – Chapter 195

[SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.](#)

registered sanitarians; qualifications (H.B. 2145) – Chapter 43

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

public schools; ultraprocessed foods (H.B. 2164) – Chapter 52

[SEE THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.](#)

mental health inquiry; prohibition (H.B. 2173) – Chapter 25

Prohibits a health profession regulatory board, the Department of Health Services or a nonhealth profession licensing authority from asking on an application for a license, permit, certificate, endorsement or registration whether an applicant has sought mental health assistance or received a mental health diagnosis or treatment. An application may include a question as to whether the applicant is currently being monitored for a health condition, including substance abuse, under order of a regulatory entity in another state but the applicant may refuse to respond if the monitoring is part of a confidential program.

claims; prior authorization; conduct (NOW: prior authorization; claims) (H.B. 2175) – Chapter 165

[SEE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.](#)

marijuana; advertising; restrictions (H.B. 2179) – Chapter 166 RFEIR

Subject to the requirements for enactment for initiatives and referendums (Proposition 105), which requires the affirmative vote of at least three-fourths of the members of each house of the Legislature, beginning July 1, 2026, establishes guidelines and restrictions for the advertising of marijuana and marijuana products and paraphernalia. A recreational marijuana establishment

and nonprofit medical marijuana dispensary (marijuana establishment) may advertise or authorize advertising for marijuana and marijuana products and other individuals and entities that sell marijuana paraphernalia may advertise or authorize advertising for marijuana paraphernalia, in accordance with statutory advertising restrictions. A marijuana establishment and other retail entities may not advertise marijuana or marijuana products to individuals who are under 21 years old through specified means, including through the use of names that resemble brands marketed to children, images or likeness of toys or cartoons or representations of marijuana consumption or THC levels in any way that primarily appeals to individuals under 21 years old. Prohibits a marijuana establishment and other retail entities from advertising at, on or in specified modes of public transport or electronically via social media, on a website or at sporting event unless at least 73.6 percent of the audience is expected to be at least 21 years old. Prescribes marijuana warning label requirements and prohibits billboards advertising marijuana from being within 1,000 feet of a childcare center, church, substance abuse recovery facility, public park or playground or a public or private school. Outlines the disciplinary procedures for noncompliant marijuana advertisers.

acute care services; pilot program (H.B. 2180) – Chapter 197

Continues the Acute Care at Home Pilot Program (ACHPP) until January 1, 2029. Each hospital eligible for the ACHPP must demonstrate that the hospital's in-person and telehealth equipment is capable of providing acute in-home services in a manner that ensures emergency response times of less than 30 minutes to a patient's home. A participating hospital may use applicable protocols determined by the Department of Health Services to set the manner in which emergency response times are met through the use of mobile paramedics and nursing services.

opioids; containers; labeling; requirements; repeal (H.B. 2291) – Chapter 45

Repeals the requirement for prescription opioid containers that are directly dispensed by a pharmacist and not for immediate use to have a red cap.

~~behavioral health examiners board; continuation~~ (NOW: health boards; state agencies; continuations) (H.B. 2313) – Chapter 249 E

An emergency measure effective June 27, 2025, that continues the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) and the Governor's Regulatory Review Council (GRRC) for four years, until July 1, 2029, retroactive to July 1, 2025. Continues the Board of Executive Clemency (BOEC) and the School Facilities Oversight Board (SFOB) for five years, until July 1, 2030, retroactive to July 1, 2025. Continues the Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners, the Arizona Board of Dental Examiners, the Board of Massage Therapy, the Arizona Board of Osteopathic Examiners in Medicine and Surgery and the Arizona Board of Respiratory Care Examiners for six years, until July 1, 2031, retroactive to July 1, 2025. Continues the Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions, the Arizona Exposition and State Fair Board and the Property Tax Oversight Commission for eight years until July 1, 2033, retroactive to July 1, 2025.

Modifies ACJC membership and meeting requirements. Each ACJC member must attend at least three meetings per calendar year and any member that does not meet the minimum

requirement is deemed to have vacated the office. Governor-appointed ACJC members may not use designees to meet the attendance requirement.

Modifies GRRC membership to include four members appointed by the Governor and two members who are not legislators and are appointed by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives. Prescribes requirements for rule review by GRRC Staff and allows GRRC Staff to employ legal counsel only for the purposes of rule review for constitutionality on request by a GRRC member. Outlines GRRC meeting requirements.

Establishes the Committee on Executive Director Selection and Retention (Committee) consisting of the members of the Board of Behavioral Health Examiners and the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Board of Massage Therapy. The Committee is a public body subject to open meeting laws and is responsible for appointing the Executive Director of the Board of Massage Therapy, who also serves as the Executive Director of the Board of Behavioral Health Examiners. Prescribes Committee rules and guidelines. Establishes reporting requirements of the Board of Massage Therapy.

Modifies conflict of interest disclosure requirements for SFOB employees and removes the authorization for the Director of the SFOB to expedite money requests for projects that have received preliminary approval by the State Board of Education for capital facilities. A city or town may assess or collect development fees for streets and water and sewer utility functions only if the development is not funded in whole or in part by New School Facilities Fund monies.

~~postpartum depression; treatment; insurers (NOW: postpartum depression; education materials)~~
(NOW: postpartum health; education; advisory committee) ([H.B. 2332](#)) – Chapter 201

Requires the Department of Health Services (DHS) to identify and compile relevant educational materials and information for health care professionals and patients regarding maternal mental health conditions. The materials must be developed by organizations with expertise in maternal mental health conditions and include information on postpartum depression symptoms, coping methods, treatment options and resources. If unable to identify existing materials, DHS must develop written educational materials and information, taking into consideration relevant clinical practice guidelines, peer-reviewed studies and recommendations from experts in maternal mental health care. The materials must be periodically reviewed for accuracy, posted on the DHS public website and be made physically available upon request. Health care institutions, primary health care professionals and any other health care professionals who render prenatal, postnatal or pediatric infant care must provide the materials and information to any woman who learns she is pregnant or presents with signs of a maternal mental health disorder at any time during pregnancy or postpartum. Health care institutions must provide each departing new parent and other family members, as appropriate, with the written materials and information upon discharge.

Requires DHS to establish a 19-member Advisory Committee on Obstetrics, Gynecology and Maternal Mental Health in Rural Communities (Advisory Committee) and outlines Advisory Committee membership. The Advisory Committee may hold hearings and hear public testimony and must develop prescribed recommendations and submit a report of its findings to the Governor and Legislature by December 31, 2026. Terminates the Advisory Committee on July 1, 2027.

rare disease advisory council ([H.B. 2380](#)) – Chapter 170

Establishes the Rare Disease Advisory Council (RDAC) within the Department of Health Services to provide guidance and recommendations to educate the public, the Legislature and other government agencies and departments, as appropriate, on the needs of individuals with a rare disease. Outlines RDAC membership and allows the RDAC to perform specified actions to benefit Arizonans impacted by rare diseases, including holding public hearings, consulting with experts on rare diseases, researching and making recommendations to state agencies and health insurers, providing comments on related pending legislation and identifying and distributing educational resources to health care providers. By December 1 of each year, the RDAC must submit a report of its activities and recommendations to the Governor and Legislature.

topical medications ([H.B. 2405](#)) – Chapter 30

Allows any unused portion of a facility-provided multidose medication that was administered to a patient at a hospital or outpatient surgical center to be offered to the patient on discharge if the medication was ordered at least 24 hours prior to a surgical procedure, is properly labeled and is required for ongoing treatment. Requires the prescribing provider to counsel the patient on proper use and administration, if the medication was used in an operating room or emergency department, and waives pharmacist counseling requirement. *Facility-provided multidose medication* is a topical antibiotic or anti-inflammatory, dilation or glaucoma drop or ointment that the staff of a hospital operating room, emergency department or outpatient surgical center has ordered or retrieved from a dispensing system for a specific patient for use during a procedure or visit.

physical therapists; imaging; laboratory tests ([H.B. 2583](#)) – Chapter 206

Limits a physical therapist's authority to order imaging to only imaging ordered for patients who have an established patient relationship with the physical therapist and for whom there is a clinical need for the order. Removes the specification that imaging ordered by a physical therapist be only musculoskeletal imaging consisting of plain film radiographs.

pharmacies; emergency authority ([H.B. 2627](#)) – Chapter 86

Requires Arizona State Board of Pharmacy rules relating to the provision of pharmaceutical care and drug device delivery during a declared state of emergency that is the consequence of a natural disaster or terrorist attack to allow pharmacies owned by a health system to compound and repackage prescription drugs on a nonpatient-specific basis until the state of emergency is terminated.

pharmacists; emergency medication; administration ([H.B. 2628](#)) – Chapter 32

Allows a pharmacist to order and administer emergency medication to manage an acute allergic reaction to medication that was administered at the pharmacy. The pharmacist must notify

the person's primary care provider within 48 hours of administering the emergency medication and follow all standard operating procedures adopted by the pharmacy or other institution where the emergency medication is administered. If the person's primary care provider is unknown, the pharmacist must make a reasonable effort to identify the primary care provider through patient inquiry or pharmacy records.

court-ordered evaluations ([H.B. 2742](#)) – Chapter 211

Specifies that a county's responsibility for the court-ordered evaluation of a person who is alleged to be, as a result of a mental disorder, a danger to self or others or who has a persistent, acute or grave disability, continues until the end of the evaluation period, which occurs when: 1) the petition for court-ordered treatment is filed with the court; 2) the person agrees to voluntary treatment; or 3) the person is released from court-ordered evaluation.

The petition for court-ordered treatment must be filed within 72 hours after completing the patient's inpatient evaluation, excluding weekends and holidays, and on the same or succeeding court day as the evaluation agency determines that, as a result of a mental disorder, the patient is a danger to self or others or has a persistent, acute or grave disability. The 72-hour filing requirement does not apply if the patient is released from the evaluation agency or admitted on a voluntary basis.

ground ambulances; registration ([H.B. 2787](#)) – Chapter 212

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

inpatient treatment days; computation; exclusion ([H.B. 2944](#)) – Chapter 214

Excludes any time that a patient spent in jail or prison from the maximum period of involuntary inpatient treatment days that the court may order a patient to undergo after finding that, as a result of a mental disorder, the patient is a danger to self or others or has a persistent, acute or grave disability and is in need of treatment, as prescribed.

LEGISLATION VETOED

SNAP; TANF; public welfare; verification ([S.B. 1071](#)) – VETOED

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

medical boards; complaints; time limit ([S.B. 1072](#)) – VETOED

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

hospitals; patient immigration status; reporting ([S.B. 1268](#)) – VETOED

[SEE THE MILITARY AFFAIRS & BORDER SECURITY COMMITTEE.](#)

parental rights; compensatory damages ([S.B. 1443](#)) – VETOED

Requires compensatory damages awarded for a violation of the Parents' Bill of Rights to total at least \$2,500 for each violation. Clarifies that a parent's right to make health care decisions for a minor child includes the right to make mental health care decisions.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1443 could deter vulnerable children from seeking help.

gender transition procedures; provider liability ([S.B. 1586](#)) – VETOED

[SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.](#)

patient rights; health care services ([S.B. 1600](#)) – VETOED

Grants a patient the right to receive health care services from a health professional who: 1) acts only in the patient's best interest; 2) does no harm; and 3) ensures that each medical decision, proposed diagnostic or therapeutic procedure or course of action, except in an emergency, requires informed consent.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1600 is unnecessary, as health professionals are already legally obligated to act in their patients' best interests and to obtain informed consent for procedures.

emergency use products; employers; prohibition ([H.B. 2012](#)) – VETOED

Prohibits a government or health care entity from requiring administration of an emergency use product and prohibits an employer from requiring administration of an emergency use product as a condition of hiring or continued employment.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2012 is seemingly predicated on a misunderstanding of federal law, has the potential to jeopardize the public health of Arizonans and problematically puts the state in the position of dictating the policy decisions of private employers.

SNAP; mandatory employment and training ([H.B. 2121](#)) – VETOED

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

SNAP; work requirement waivers; exemptions ([H.B. 2122](#)) – VETOED

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

medical records; parental rights ([H.B. 2126](#)) – VETOED

Requires a health care entity, while maintaining required confidentiality, to provide the parent of a minor child with access to any electronic portal and delivery platform for the minor's medical records, regardless of whether parental consent is required for the medical treatment rendered or if the medical treatment was obtained in an emergency.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2126 would create legal ambiguity for health care providers who have an existing obligation to patient privacy.

SNAP; prohibited purchases; waiver ([H.B. 2165](#)) – VETOED

Requires the Director of the Department of Economic Security (Director) to request a waiver from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to exclude soda from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and, if the waiver is granted, to prohibit SNAP enrollees from purchasing soda with SNAP benefits. If the waiver is not granted, the Director must request a waiver annually until the request is granted.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2165, while attempting to improve the health outcomes of Arizonans, unnecessarily deprives SNAP participants of purchasing power and relegates them to a new underclass of grocery shoppers.

DCS; vaccinations; child placement ([H.B. 2257](#)) – VETOED

Prohibits the Department of Child Safety (DCS) from refusing to place a child with a foster home or kinship foster care parent based solely on the vaccination status of the child or other children in the home if the foster home or kinship foster care parent is licensed and qualified for the placement.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2257 is unnecessary as DCS affords biological parents of foster children discretion regarding medical care to enable proper kinship placements in the best interest of the child and that H.B. 2257 does nothing to address the state's greatest challenge in placing older children in community foster homes.

birth certificates; amendments; prohibition ([H.B. 2438](#)) – VETOED

Limits the State Registrar's authority to amend a person's birth certificate to only amendments for statutorily specified purposes in order to protect the integrity and accuracy of vital records and removes the State Registrar's authority to amend a person's birth certificate to reflect a sex change operation.

If a person provides evidence to the State Registrar that would lead a reasonable person to conclude beyond a reasonable doubt that an original entry on the person's birth certificate is factually inaccurate, the State Registrar must remove the misinformation and correct the birth certificate. The Bureau of Vital Records must maintain a record of all evidence relating to an amendment of factually inaccurate information on a person's birth certificate. A court order ordering an amendment to a person's birth certificate is limited to ordering an amendment only to the person's name.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2438 will not lower costs, increase opportunity or enhance security or freedom for Arizonans.

website information; pregnant women ([H.B. 2439](#)) – VETOED

[SEE THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.](#)

psychologist board; complaint-related documents ([H.B. 2441](#)) – VETOED

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

AHCCCS; enrollment verification; presumptive eligibility ([H.B. 2449](#)) – VETOED

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

DCS; kinship care placement; requirement ([H.B. 2671](#)) – VETOED

[SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.](#)

genetic sequencing; insurance; prohibition ([H.B. 2693](#)) – VETOED

Allows health insurers and the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), subject to approval of the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, to limit coverage for genetic sequencing if the genetic sequencing is performed on a device produced by a company domiciled in, or owned or controlled by a company domiciled in, a foreign adversary. Prohibits health care institutions and research facilities from using genetic sequencers or genetic sequencing software produced in or by a foreign adversary or a company, subsidiary or enterprise related to a foreign adversary. Outlines requirements for replacing prohibited equipment and properly storing

genetic sequencing data to ensure proper security. By December 31 each year, each health care institution and research facility must certify compliance with the genetic sequencing prohibition. A health care institution that spends state monies in violation of the genetic sequencing restrictions is subject to a civil penalty of \$20,000 for each violation and other potential action by the Attorney General. A *foreign adversary* is defined as the People's Republic of China, Russia, Iran, North Korea, Cuba, Venezuela, Syria or the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and any country designated as a foreign adversary by the federal government or any agent or entity under significant control of a foreign adversary.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2693 is unnecessary.

Judiciary & Elections Committee

Senator Wendy Rogers, Chairperson



Zack Dean, Research Analyst

Kaytie Sherman, Assistant Research Analyst

Anna Whitney, Intern

JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

fair jury improvement fund (S.B. 1006) – Chapter 55

Renames the *Arizona Trial and Digital Evidence Fund* as the *Fair Jury Improvement Fund* (Fund). Extends the repeal date of the Fund and the court fee that supplies the Fund for four years.

small claims court; jurisdictional limit (S.B. 1022) – Chapter 94

Increases the jurisdictional limit of the small claims division of the justice court from \$3,500 to \$5,000.

animal seizure; bond amount (S.B. 1033) – Chapter 176

Increases, from \$25 per animal to \$500 per animal, the bond amount that an animal owner must post to cover the cost of care for an animal that was properly seized by law enforcement.

postconviction relief proceedings; hourly rate (S.B. 1035) – Chapter 58

Allows court appointed counsel for capital defendants in state postconviction relief proceedings to receive a compensation rate exceeding \$100 per hour, but not exceeding \$200 per hour, if the higher rate is approved by the county board of supervisors.

recall elections; procedures; timeline (S.B. 1040) – Chapter 3

Modifies timeframes relating to recall elections by increasing: 1) from 60 days to 75 days, the timeframe within which a county recorder must determine the number of disqualified signatures or affidavits after receiving a recall petition signature sheet; and 2) from 90 days to 120 days, the minimum number of days between the order for a recall election and the next consolidated election date at which the recall election must occur. A person seeking candidacy for the office at a recall election must file a statement of interest with the appropriate filing officer and any nomination petition signatures collected before filing the statement of interest and recall application are invalid and subject to challenge.

liquified petroleum gas containers; penalties. (S.B. 1056) – Chapter 177

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

penalty assessment; victims' rights enforcement (S.B. 1103) – Chapter 95

Increases the penalty assessment that is levied on fines, forfeitures and penalties deposited into the Victims' Rights Enforcement Fund from \$2 to \$4.

police reports; victims; prosecuting agency (S.B. 1104) – Chapter 37

SEE THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.

public entity liability; sexual offenses (S.B. 1106) – Chapter 60

Subjects, until January 1, 2028, a public entity to liability for losses arising out of an act or omission by a public employee that is determined to be a felony sexual offense if the victim is a minor or a child with a disability and the public entity violated a statutory duty to obtain employee background information or the public entity or employee had a statutory duty to report and failed to do so. Designates this legislation as *Ava's Law*.

write-in candidates; nomination paper filing (S.B. 1153) – Chapter 18

Requires a write-in candidate for an election to file the candidate's nomination paper by 5:00 p.m. on the 60th day, rather than the 40th day, before the election.

~~animal cruelty; classification~~ (NOW: animal cruelty; felony classification) (S.B. 1198) – Chapter 255

Increases, from a class 6 felony to a class 5 felony, the penalty for intentionally or knowingly killing or causing serious harm to a working animal or service animal and adds injuring a working or service animal to the list of crimes that make a person liable for training and replacement costs and veterinary bills. Any applicable justification defense prescribed by statute is a defense to an animal cruelty violation.

litigation; financing; consumer protection; enforcement (S.B. 1215) – Chapter 226

Beginning January 1, 2026, prohibits a litigation financier from directing or making any decision with respect to the course of any action that is subject to a litigation financing agreement or any settlement or other disposition. The named party and counsel of record must retain all rights to control and decision-making with regard to the action. If there has been a prior disclosure of the existence of litigation financing in a class action litigation, the court must consider the existence of litigation financing and any related conflicts of interest when determining whether a class representative or counsel would adequately and fairly represent the interests of the class. If there has been a prior disclosure of the existence of litigation financing in a multidistrict litigation, the court must consider the existence of litigation financing and any related conflicts of interest when approving or appointing counsel to leadership positions.

Prohibits a litigation financier from paying or offering to pay a commission, referral fee or other consideration to legal counsel, a law firm or a licensed health care provider for referring a person to the financier without disclosing in writing to the potential borrower, as prescribed. A litigation financier may not provide funding to or in connection with a litigation financing agreement that is directly or indirectly financed by a foreign entity of concern.

Deems voidable a litigation financing agreement that is entered in violation of the litigation financing requirements. A violation of the litigation financing requirements is an unlawful practice under Arizona's Consumer Fraud Act.

issuance; affidavit; arrest warrant (NOW: arrest warrant; issuance; affidavit) (S.B. 1232) – Chapter 227

Requires a magistrate to issue an arrest warrant for a person if the magistrate is satisfied by an affidavit that is sworn to or affirmed before the magistrate establishing that probable cause exists that the person committed a felony offense. The officer making the arrest must bring the person before the nearest and most accessible magistrate in the county in which the arrest occurred, rather than the same magistrate that issued the warrant or another available magistrate in that same county. If the offense was committed in another county, the arresting officer may bring the person before the nearest or most accessible magistrate in the county in which the arrest occurs or before a magistrate in the county where the alleged offense was committed.

fraudulent voice recordings (S.B. 1295) – Chapter 184

Specifies that a person commits *criminal impersonation* by using a computer-generated voice recording, image or video of another person with intent to defraud other persons and classifies a violation as a class 5 felony, except that comedy, parody, artistic expression, criticism or other circumstances are not considered fraudulent when it is clear to a reasonable listener or viewer that the recording, image or video has been digitally manipulated.

election officer certification training; yearly (S.B. 1319) – Chapter 157

Requires an election officer certified by the Secretary of State (SOS) in an even-numbered year to be certified by June 1 of that even numbered year in order to be authorized to perform election duties. An election officer certified during an odd-numbered year must be certified by January 1 of each general election year. All election officers' certificates expire on December 31 of the year after a general election.

The SOS must submit the statutorily required election officer education, training and certification plan to the Legislature annually, rather than each year of a general election.

probation supervision; transfer (S.B. 1343) – Chapter 138

Removes the requirement that a request to courtesy transfer a probationer's intensive probation supervision or supervised probation to another county must be made at the time of sentencing or disposition.

gift cards; theft; forgery (S.B. 1351) – Chapter 186

Specifies that a person commits *gift card theft* if, with the intent to defraud, the person knowingly: 1) acquires possession of a gift card or gift card information without the consent of the gift card holder, issuer or seller; 2) acquires possession of a gift card or gift card information by exploitation; or 3) obtains money, goods, services or anything else of value with a gift card or gift card information that was obtained without the consent of the gift card holder, issuer or seller. Both *gift card theft* and *forgery* that includes a forged gift card are class 4 felonies.

evaluation agencies; hearings; witnesses ([S.B. 1354](#)) – Chapter 20

[SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.](#)

mental health transition program; extension ([S.B. 1405](#)) – Chapter 229

[SEE THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.](#)

~~liquor sampling; reporting; requirements~~ (NOW: impersonation; veteran; armed forces) ([S.B. 1424](#)) – Chapter 69

Establishes the criminal classification of *impersonating a veteran* which a person commits by knowingly misrepresenting themselves to be a veteran through specified means with intent to obtain money, property or any other tangible benefit. *Impersonating a veteran* is a class 1 misdemeanor or, if the benefit obtained has a value of at least \$50,000, a class 6 felony which may not be reduced to a misdemeanor by the court. The crime of *impersonating a veteran* does not apply to actors portraying a veteran in an entertainment production or to individuals experiencing homelessness. Designates this legislation as the *Master Sergeant Orlando Dona Valor Act*.

lifetime injunction; undesignated offenses ([S.B. 1449](#)) – Chapter 105

Requires a class 6 felony offense that is qualified to be designated as a misdemeanor by the court to be treated as a felony for the purpose of issuing a lifetime injunction. The designation of a class 6 felony offense as a misdemeanor does not affect the validity of, or a victim's right to request, a lifetime injunction.

computer-generated pictorial representations; unlawful disclosure ([S.B. 1462](#)) – Chapter 106

Stipulates that, if an image depicting a person in a state of nudity or sexual activity is a *realistic pictorial representation*, the depicted person does not need to have a reasonable expectation of privacy for the nonconsensual disclosure of such image to be considered unlawful, unless the image was created or modified by the depicted person. Unlawful disclosure of a realistic pictorial representation in this manner is a class 1 misdemeanor. A *realistic pictorial representation* is an image that is created or modified to reasonably appear to be an actual image of an identifiable person depicted in a state of nudity or engaged in specific sexual activities that did not actually occur, except for images made in the public interest.

~~permanency placement; grandparent; priority~~ (NOW: compensation; erroneous convictions) ([S.B. 1500](#)) – Chapter 230

Beginning January 1, 2026, and until July 1, 2027, allows a claimant to bring an action in superior court seeking compensation from the state for an erroneous conviction and entitles such a person to compensation, as outlined, if certain criteria are met. Claimants may not receive

compensation for any time that the claimant was serving a concurrent sentence for which the claimant was lawfully incarcerated. Claims must be brought within two years of the claimant being pardoned or the conviction being overturned or vacated or within two years of September 24, 2025, if the claimant has already been released from custody.

Convictions and arrests associated with a successful erroneous conviction claim must be expunged from all applicable state and federal systems and the expungement order must contain prescribed information and instructions. The Department of Public Safety must destroy any biological samples associated with the expunged offense. Outlines additional expungement requirements for the Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry and arresting and prosecuting agencies. The victims of a crime that involves an erroneously convicted defendant are entitled to a specified amount of reimbursement for mental health services.

Allows the Attorney General (AG), or the court on its own motion, to make findings of fact on whether a city or county employee committed harmful error or misconduct that was the proximate cause of the pardoning, reversal or vacating of a conviction. The AG has the burden of proving harmful error or misconduct by a preponderance of the evidence. On such finding, the city or county must pay the compensation and reimbursement, rather than the state.

transitional housing; reentry programs; licensure ([S.B. 1537](#)) – Chapter 260

[SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.](#)

campaign finance reports; filing dates ([S.B. 1581](#)) – Chapter 112

Modifies the filing dates for various campaign finance reports and adds a postprimary report to the required campaign finance reports. The quarterly report that a political action committee or political party must file for calendar quarters without an election must be filed by the 15th day of the month after the calendar quarter, rather than the 3rd Monday in the month and, for calendar quarters with an election, the preelection report must be filed within 15 days, rather than 10 days, before the election.

A statewide candidate committee must file a quarterly report every year for each calendar quarter by the 15th day of the month after the corresponding calendar quarter and a postprimary report that is complete through the primary election and filed within 15 days after the primary election. A legislative, county or city or town candidate committee must file annual, quarterly and postprimary campaign finance reports as outlined.

For a city or town candidate, the first or primary election for the office the candidate is seeking is deemed as the primary election for reporting purposes and the year of the city's or town's second, runoff or general election for the office the candidate is seeking is deemed as the year of the general election for that candidate's reporting purposes.

sexual abuse; dangerous crimes; children ([S.B. 1585](#)) – Chapter 75

Modifies the definition of *dangerous crimes against children* to include specified acts committed against a person posing as a minor if the defendant knew or had reason to know the purported minor was under 15 years old.

~~licensed secure facility; incompetent defendants~~ (NOW: licensed secure health facility; defendants) ([S.B. 1604](#)) – Chapter 113

[SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.](#)

~~narcotic drugs; definition~~ ([S.B. 1622](#)) – Chapter 163

Adds protonitazene and seven other synthetic opioids and benzimidazole derivatives with opioid effects to the statutory definition of *narcotic drug*.

~~veterinary technicians; certification; education alternative~~ (NOW: failure to treat; animal cruelty) ([S.B. 1658](#)) – Chapter 232

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

~~guardianship; minors; appointment; notice~~ ([H.B. 2079](#)) – Chapter 79

Modifies the conditions which allow the court to appoint a guardian for a minor by requiring the court to find that the appointment is in the minor's best interest and that one of the following conditions apply: 1) each living parent of the minor consents to the appointment of a guardian after being fully informed of the nature of a guardianship appointment; 2) the parental rights of the living parents of the minor have been terminated; or 3) the minor is at least 16 years old, is not the subject of an open dependency case and, based on a preponderance of the evidence, no parent is willing or able to exercise the powers and duties of a guardian. The court may extend the authority of a temporary guardian beyond six months if the court determines that the extension is in the minor's best interests.

Exempts a petitioner from providing a prescribed notice regarding a guardianship hearing to any living parent of the minor if, after a due diligent search, a living parent cannot be located and the minor is at least 16 years old and not the subject of an open dependency case. If the petitioner does not serve the prescribed notice on any living parent, the court must determine whether the petitioner exercised due diligence to locate a living parent of the minor.

~~communications from inmate; victims' right~~ ([H.B. 2108](#)) – Chapter 22

Expands the prohibition against an inmate sending correspondence to a victim or the victim's family or household to include any written, verbal or nonverbal communication, rather than only mail, if the victim or other qualified party has requested to not receive such correspondence.

~~internet pornography; minors; age verification~~ ([H.B. 2112](#)) – Chapter 193

Requires a commercial entity that publishes or distributes sexual material on an internet website to use reasonable age verification methods to ensure that persons who attempt to access the material are at least 18 years old. Age verification requirements do not apply to: 1) websites where less than one-third of the content is sexual material; 2) a bona fide news broadcast or public

internet broadcast, website video, report or event; and 3) material that has serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value for minors when taken as a whole. Age verification methods must not allow for identifying information to be transmitted to any government entity and a commercial entity may not retain any identifying information.

The parent or guardian of a minor who accesses sexual material and a person whose identifying information is unlawfully retained has the right to take action against an offending entity. A court may award a civil penalty to a successful plaintiff and must use outlined factors when determining the amount of the civil penalty assessed to the offending entity, which may not exceed: 1) \$10,000 per instance when the entity retains or transmits identifying information; 2) \$10,000 per day that the entity operates a website without required age verification methods; and 3) an additional \$250,000 if one or more minors access sexual material due to a lack of age verification. An internet service provider, search engine and other affiliate or subsidiary is not in violation of age verification requirements solely for providing access or connection to a website, to the extent that the provider or engine is not responsible for the creation of the sexual material.

sexual conduct; minor; classification; sentence (H.B. 2114) – Chapter 49

Increases the penalty for *sexual conduct with a minor* who is at least 15 years old from a class 6 felony to a class 4 felony, if the defendant is more than 60 months older than the victim and is older than 21 years old at the time of the offense. If placed on probation, the convicted person must be sentenced to serve one year in jail.

observing nude minor; sexual gratification (H.B. 2115) – Chapter 23

Specifies that a person commits *sexual exploitation of a minor* by knowingly observing a nude minor for the purpose of engaging in sexual conduct for that person's own sexual gratification. This criminal classification does not apply to: 1) activity involving consensual sexual conduct between minors who are 15, 16 or 17 years old; and 2) activity for which the Romeo and Juliet defense applies.

small estate; affidavit; limits (H.B. 2116) – Chapter 24

Increases the maximum value of real property, from \$75,000 to \$200,000, or personal property, from \$100,000 to \$300,000, in a decedent's estate that allows a transfer of the estate using an affidavit.

~~write-in candidates; filings; ballots~~ (NOW: inactive voters; hand counts; alternates) (H.B. 2129) – Chapter 194

Prohibits an inactive voter from receiving an early ballot and any election notices through the Active Early Voting List or from receiving a mail ballot in a special district mail ballot election, unless the voter updates or confirms the voter's voter registration information. Requires a candidate seeking to withdraw the person's name for candidacy to file a signed and notarized statement of withdrawal with the appropriate filing officer. For primary, general or special elections that include

a federal office, the county recorder and city or town clerks' offices are not required to be open the weekend before and after the election if there are no remaining ballots that require identification or signatures to be cured.

Modifies procedures relating to the hand count audit for primary, special and general elections by allowing one contested county race to be used in the hand count audit when there is an insufficient number of contested federal, statewide or legislative races or ballot measures to satisfy the hand count audit requirements. If there is an insufficient number of contested races or ballot measures, additional uncontested races must be selected by lot without the use of a computer until up to five races have been selected. The county or state party chairperson for each political party may select replacement hand count workers from any political party if: 1) a political party designee fails to appear for the hand count; 2) the selection does not exceed the 75 percent threshold of hand count workers from the same political party; and 3) the selection does not delay the hand count.

When designating a justice precinct for a justice of the peace or constable candidate's nomination paper, a candidate for election in 2026 may use the candidate's: 1) justice precinct as used in the 2024 election; 2) justice precinct as modified or redistricted by the county as prescribed; or 3) district as designated by a redistricting plan ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction for use in the upcoming election. The filing officer must accept nomination papers and petitions from justice of the peace and constable candidates for election in 2026 when the candidate designates a valid justice precinct and the candidate's statement of interest, nomination paper and nomination petition comply with applicable law. The petition signatures for an outlined justice of the peace or constable candidate are valid if the signers are registered voters and residents of any of the outlined justice precincts that the candidate proposes to represent. The authority to designate additional justice precincts does not apply to a special election to fill a justice of the peace or constable vacancy.

~~dental board; licensure; renewal~~ (NOW: medical records; destruction; classification) ([H.B. 2137](#)) – Chapter 195

Specifies that a person commits *failure to maintain adequate records*, if the person knowingly fails to maintain, or report the destruction of, records that: 1) disclose the nature of behavioral health services for which a claim is submitted, or payment is received; or 2) fully disclose all income and expenditures on which rates of payment are based. For a person to commit *failure to maintain adequate records* as outlined, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) must determine that the person engaged in AHCCCS-related fraud and refer the investigation to a criminal justice agency.

Failure to maintain adequate records is a class 1 misdemeanor, if the person knowingly fails to maintain the outlined behavioral health service records or a class 2 misdemeanor, if the person knowingly fails to report the destruction of the outlined behavioral health service records.

~~child sex trafficking; juvenile defendants~~ ([H.B. 2207](#)) – Chapter 131 RFEIR

Subject to the requirements for enactment for initiatives and referendums (Proposition 105), which requires the affirmative vote of at least three-fourths of the members of each house of the Legislature, specifies that the mandatory natural life imprisonment sentence for class 2 felony *child sex trafficking* only applies if the offender was at least 18 years old at the time of the offense.

~~juveniles; change of judge; impartiality~~ (NOW: change of judge; impartiality; juveniles) ([H.B. 2295](#)) – Chapter 80

Outlines procedures for a party to a permanency determination action to request a change of judge *for cause* or utilize the party's right to make one request for a change of judge *without cause* and specifies that the right to request a change of judge *without cause* is renewed only if an appellate court remands a case that remains assigned to the original judge.

A party to a permanency determination action may file a motion to request a change of judge *for cause* if: 1) the judge was engaged as counsel in the matter before becoming a judge; 2) the judge has an interest in or is related to either party to the action; or 3) a party has cause to believe that the judge cannot be fair and impartial due to bias, prejudice or interest of the judge. A party waives the right to request a change of judge for cause if the party allows a contested permanency determination proceeding to continue before that judge without objection and after learning that grounds exist to request a change of judge for cause.

A party has the right to make one request for change of judge *without cause* by making the request on the record in open court or by filing a notice of change of judge as prescribed. A party waives the right to request a change of judge without cause when the party participates in any contested proceeding before that judge. The waiver of the right to request a change of judge without cause applies to all successive petitions and supplemental petitions that are filed regarding the same matter, minor or other minor having at least one parent in common and to all proceedings after remand by an appellate court, with certain exceptions.

~~behavioral health examiners board; continuation~~ (NOW: health boards; state agencies; continuations) ([H.B. 2313](#)) – Chapter 249 E

[SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.](#)

~~legal document preparers; license requirements~~ ([H.B. 2343](#)) – Chapter 27

Allows a legal document preparer to earn credit towards the preparer's annual continuing legal education activity requirement while simultaneously earning continuing education credit towards a state agency license renewal if the continuing education program meets prescribed requirements.

~~transnational repression; foreign adversaries~~ ([H.B. 2374](#)) – Chapter 224

Establishes sentencing enhancements for certain crimes committed by an agent of a foreign government or foreign terrorist organization. An agent of a foreign government or foreign terrorist organization must be sentenced to the next higher class of offense if the person is convicted of stalking, threatening or intimidating, harassment, assault or aggravated assault and intentionally acts on behalf of the foreign government or foreign terrorist organization while committing the offense and, at the direction of the foreign government or foreign terrorist organization, the person: 1) coerces another person to act on behalf of the foreign government or foreign terrorist

organization; 2) coerces a person to leave, or to cause another person to leave, the United States; or 3) restricts another person from engaging in protected conduct or retaliates against another person for engaging in protected conduct.

When a person is intentionally acting as an agent of, at the direction of or on behalf of a foreign government or foreign terrorist organization, it is unlawful for the person to intentionally engage in law enforcement activity without the knowledge and approval of a federal or state law enforcement agency. Engaging in law enforcement activity without approval is a class 2 felony.

Requires the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to establish a Transnational Repression Recognition and Response Training Program (Program) to offer specialized training to peace officers and other law enforcement officers. Prescribes Program curriculum and prohibits the Program from promoting the targeting of any person based on political or religious beliefs.

county candidates; clean elections pamphlet ([H.B. 2376](#)) – Chapter 202 RFEIR

Subject to the requirements for enactment for initiatives and referendums (Proposition 105), which requires the affirmative vote of at least three-fourths of the members of each house of the Legislature, adds countywide candidates, including candidates for the county board of supervisors, to the list of candidates whose names must be included in the Voter Education Guide published by the Citizens Clean Elections Commission before the primary and general elections.

cryptocurrency kiosk; license; fraud prevention ([H.B. 2387](#)) – Chapter 171

Requires a cryptocurrency kiosk operator (operator) doing business in Arizona to disclose all relevant terms and conditions associated with its services in a clear and conspicuous manner in the customer's chosen language. Prescribes two separate disclosure warnings that must be provided to a customer prior to executing a transaction that detail methods of identifying consumer fraud and the irreversible nature of virtual currency fraud. Upon completion of a transaction, the customer must be provided with transaction receipts that contain outlined information.

An operator may not facilitate transactions exceeding \$2,000 in cash or virtual currency equivalent through one or more kiosks in one day if the person is a new customer and has been transacting business at an operator for less than 10 days. After the 10-day period, operators may facilitate transactions of up to \$10,500 in a single day for a single existing customer. All individuals and entities are considered new customers beginning September 26, 2025.

An operator must take reasonable steps to detect and prevent fraud and incorporate the use of blockchain analytics and tracing software to help prevent potentially fraudulent transfers. Evidence that an operator is using blockchain analytics may be requested by relevant government authorities. An operator must issue full refunds for fraudulently induced transactions to new customers if the customer contacted law enforcement and the operator within 30 days and provided the operator with a law enforcement report determining the customer was subject to fraud.

justices of the peace; online signature (NOW: JPs; constables; online signature) (H.B. 2390) – Chapter 29

Adds justice of the peace and constable to the list of offices for which the Secretary of State must provide qualified electors the means to electronically sign nomination petitions by using the online signature collection system.

JPs; constables; signatures (H.B. 2391) – Chapter 147

Modifies the number of signatures required for nomination petitions for justices of the peace (JPs) and constables to allow candidates for JP and constable in counties with fewer than 1,000,000 persons to collect the lesser of 300 signatures or between 1 and 10 percent of the number of qualified signers in the precinct. The county filing officer must publicize the revised signature requirements and provide notice to each candidate who files a statement of interest for JP or constable for 2026.

parenting time; neutral exchange location (H.B. 2432) – Chapter 82

[SEE THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.](#)

administrative hearings; change of judge (H.B. 2451) – Chapter 127

Grants one peremptory change of administrative law judge to a party to a contested case or appealable agency action in administrative court. Adds conflicts of interest and being a material witness in an action to the list of reasons that allow a party to a contested case or appealable agency action to file a nonperemptory motion to disqualify an administrative law judge.

apprenticeship; supervised probation. (H.B. 2488) – Chapter 203

Allows a probationer on standard probation who participates in a state or federally recognized apprenticeship program to: 1) work during any hours of the day, if the probationer remains in good standing with the apprenticeship program; and 2) travel outside of the jurisdiction in which the probationer resides, if the travel stays within Arizona.

fentanyl; motor vehicle; sentencing (H.B. 2607) – Chapter 85

Establishes sentencing ranges for persons convicted of possession or transportation of a narcotic drug if the offense involves the possession of fentanyl in a motor vehicle in an amount of at least 200 grams. For a first offense, the minimum, presumptive and maximum sentences are 5 years, 10 years and 15 years respectively, with each increased by 5 years for a second or subsequent offense.

aggravated assault; accomplices; classification ([H.B. 2611](#)) – Chapter 172

Expands the *aggravated assault* criminal classification to include committing assault against a single person if the offender is aided by two or more accomplices and causes physical injury to the victim. Aggravated assault in this manner is a class 4 felony. Designates this legislation as *Preston's Law*.

victims; disclosure requirements; witnesses; names ([H.B. 2653](#)) – Chapter 87

Allows a law enforcement agency or prosecution agency to redact a victim's or witness's name from relevant records released pursuant to a public records request if there is a reasonable expectation that the release of the name will result in harassment, threats or witness tampering, with certain exceptions. Allows a public body to disclose a witness's name if: 1) the witness consents to the disclosure in writing; 2) a court order or rule of procedure requires the release; or 3) the public body has received a notice of final disposition of the criminal case.

trusts; estates; policies; procedures ([H.B. 2657](#)) – Chapter 88

Modifies various terms and definitions that are used in statutes relating to trusts, estates and protective proceedings.

campaign finance; third-party complaints ([H.B. 2666](#)) – Chapter 33

Prohibits a filing officer from accepting a campaign finance violation complaint from a third party unless the complaint is filed by an individual, or by an individual on behalf of an entity, and the complaint includes evidence that the individual is an identifiable human being.

campaign finance complaints; resolution ([H.B. 2667](#)) – Chapter 173

Deems a campaign finance violation complaint as dismissed if the filing officer does not: 1) resolve or rule on the complaint within 180 days after the complaint is filed; and 2) extend the deadline for resolving or ruling on the complaint.

indistinguishable; visual depiction; definition. ([H.B. 2678](#)) – Chapter 174

Modifies various definitions relating to the *sexual exploitation of children* criminal classification to include images that are created or modified by means of computer software, artificial intelligence or other digital editing tools.

hydrolyzed cocaine; threshold amount ([H.B. 2720](#)) – Chapter 34

Modifies statutory drug threshold amounts by including hydrolyzed cocaine in the existing 9-gram threshold amount for regular cocaine and removing the separate 750-milligram threshold amount for hydrolyzed cocaine.

DUI; alternative treatment ([H.B. 2728](#)) – Chapter 209

Allows a court to order a person convicted of driving under the influence (DUI) to participate in a religious program approved by the court, if the person chooses to participate in such program. The religious program may not include any effort to coerce the person to adopt or change any religious affiliation or beliefs.

Adds evidence-based psychotherapy as an alternative to the alcohol or drug screening, education or treatment program imposed for a DUI conviction. Evidence-based psychotherapy includes services offered by a licensed psychologist that integrate best available scientific research with clinical expertise based on the patient's characteristics, culture and preferences.

fingerprinting; personnel; committed youth; contact. ([H.B. 2730](#)) – Chapter 210

[SEE THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.](#)

court-ordered evaluations ([H.B. 2742](#)) – Chapter 211

[SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.](#)

juveniles; temporary custody; parental notification ([H.B. 2779](#)) – Chapter 220

Stipulates that, if a peace officer takes a juvenile into temporary custody while on school property, an employee of the school must immediately notify the juvenile's parents, guardian or custodian after confirming with the investigating agency that notification would not pose a risk to the juvenile or investigation.

Beginning July 1, 2026, requires the Arizona Department of Education, in collaboration with the Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board, to establish a training program for law enforcement officers and security personnel employed by a school district or charter school.

Each school district must require any law enforcement officer or security personnel employed by the school district to complete the training program within one month after the individual begins working for that school district. An individual is not required to re-complete the training program if the individual has already successfully completed the training program less than two years before beginning work with the school district and the individual submits a valid certificate of completion. A school district may terminate an employee who fails to successfully complete the training program. A charter school may choose whether to require law enforcement officers and security personnel employed by the charter school to complete the training program.

inpatient treatment days; computation; exclusion ([H.B. 2944](#)) – Chapter 214

[SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.](#)

proof of citizenship; voter registration ([H.C.M. 2015](#))

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

drug cartels; terrorist organizations ([H.C.R. 2055](#))

Subject to voter approval, statutorily declares that *drug cartels* are terrorist organizations and requires the Arizona Department of Homeland Security to do everything in its authority to address the threat posed by drug cartels. Requires the Secretary of State to submit the proposition to the voters at the next general election. Becomes effective if approved by the voters and on proclamation of the Governor.

LEGISLATION VETOED

early ballots; identification; tabulation ([S.B. 1001](#)) – VETOED

Modifies early voting procedures and requirements. A voted early ballot must be deposited at a designated location by 7:00 p.m. on the Friday before election day, rather than 7:00 p.m. on election day, after which identification must be presented, except that a voted early ballot may still be received by the office of the county recorder by 7:00 p.m. on election day. Any voter whose ballot is dropped off by the voter or the voter's agent after the 7:00 p.m. Friday deadline will be removed from the Active Early Voting List if they do not present sufficient identification. Removes emergency voting that occurs between 7:00 p.m. on the Friday before election day and 5:00 p.m. on the Monday before election day while extending on-site early voting to the Saturday, Sunday and Monday before election day.

Requires all government-owned buildings or facilities of a county, city or town or school district office to be made available as voting locations when requested by the officer in charge of elections. Schools that serve grades 7 through 12 must provide sufficient space for use as a voting location if the officer in charge of elections is unable to obtain other sufficient voting places. A school principal may not deny a request to use the school as a voting location.

Allows a county recorder that provides for on-site tabulation of early ballots to do so at any time during the period of early voting, rather than only on election day. If a county provides for on-site tabulation, an in-person early voter who appears at an on-site tabulation location on the Saturday, Sunday or Monday before election day must submit the voter's early ballot and affidavit and be allowed to tabulate an early ballot on-site as prescribed. The county board of supervisors or other officer in charge of elections in a county that provides for on-site tabulation must test tabulating equipment for logic and accuracy within 50 days of election day. The signature cure period consists of five calendar days after the election, rather than five business days.

A voted early ballot returned to a voting location may be removed before the polls close if prescribed conditions are met. The chain of custody log for early ballots returned at voting locations on election day must be made available for inspection by specified parties within 48 hours after election day. Prescribes additional ballot box requirements.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1001 presents challenges for voters who must rely on family members or caregivers to drop off their ballot and that speed of counting votes must be balanced with accessibility, accuracy and security.

prohibited weapons; muffling device; repeal (S.B. 1014) – VETOED

Removes a device that is designed, made or adapted to muffle the report of a firearm from the statutory definition of *prohibited weapon*.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that gun silencers make it more difficult for law enforcement officers to keep Arizonans safe.

disruption; educational institution; concealed weapon (S.B. 1020) – VETOED

Precludes the governing board of any university, college or community college from prohibiting the possession of a concealed weapon by a concealed weapon permit holder or prohibiting the lawful transportation or storage of a firearm.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1020 could lead to increased risk on campus and other unintended consequences.

public resources; influencing elections; penalties (S.B. 1036) – VETOED

[SEE THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.](#)

voter registration; temporary absence (S.B. 1052) – VETOED

Removes the eligibility of a U.S. citizen who has never resided in the United States to vote in Arizona by federal write-in early ballot, if the citizen's parent is a U.S. citizen who is registered to vote in Arizona.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1052 would prevent U.S. citizens from registering to vote, including children of Arizona servicemembers who are born overseas.

voting; equipment; internet; custody; violation (S.B. 1064) – VETOED

Requires the Secretary of State to ensure that vote recording machines and vote tabulating machines and devices (voting equipment) used in elections meet prescribed software and cybersecurity requirements and prohibits voting equipment that is used in a polling place or voting center from having access to the internet or to any data or results. Any accessible ports on voting equipment must be locked with tamper-proof seals and voting equipment chain of custody documents must log when such seals are broken or accessed in addition to the name and signature of every person involved in the delivery, use or return of such equipment.

Counting center activities must be streamed in a nonstop video on the county's website. A removable storage device may not be under the control of one person. At least two observers who are not from the same political party must be present for the insertion, removal and transportation of such devices. A violation of the voting equipment requirements is a class 1 misdemeanor.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that election equipment specifications should be included in the Elections Procedures Manual so they can be updated as technology evolves.

elections; voting centers; polling places (S.B. 1097) – VETOED

Requires a state, county, city, town or school district office and district schools with a gymnasium to provide sufficient space for use as a polling place for any election when requested by the officer in charge of elections and removes the authority of a principal to deny a request for the school to provide space for use as a polling place. A school district must be closed on primary and general election days and teachers and school district staff must receive or conduct in-service training or development activities on election days. Teachers and school district staff may not use personal, vacation or other leave time on election days, except for providing time off to vote. Removes the authority of the county board of supervisors to use voting centers in place of specifically designated polling places.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1097 is detrimental, ineffective, nonsensical and objectionable.

early ballot drop off; identification (S.B. 1098) – VETOED

Requires a voter who is dropping off the voter's own voted early ballot, or a voter's agent who is dropping off another person's voted early ballot, at a polling location, voting center or emergency voting center to present identification to the election board worker that complies with prescribed requirements. If the voter is dropping off the voter's own early ballot, the voter must present identification that reasonably appears to match the voter's ballot affidavit. In addition to the identification requirements, a voter agent must attest in writing that the voter's agent is the voter's family member, household member or caregiver. Election boards, voters and voter agents must comply with the identification and attestation requirements and a knowing violation of the early ballot drop off requirements is a class 5 felony.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1098 is detrimental, ineffective, nonsensical and objectionable.

watermark; paper ballots (S.B. 1123) – VETOED

Requires any vendor that provides fraud countermeasures contained in or on ballot paper to be ISO 27001 certified, ISO 17025 certified or ISO 9001:2015 certified. Requires ballot fraud countermeasures to include at least three other additional prescribed features.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that she is confident in the ability of Arizona election officials to administer elections without added expense and complexity.

cast vote record; public record (S.B. 1280) – VETOED

Defines *cast vote record* as an electronic record of the voters' selections as captured by a tabulation device from a ballot or ballot image that cannot be linked to a specific voter and requires the county board of supervisors (county BOS) or officer in charge of elections to transmit the cast vote record in a sortable format to the Secretary of State (SOS) within 48 hours after the county BOS transmits the county canvass. The county BOS or other officer in charge of elections may not alter or randomize the transmitted cast vote record except that the county BOS or other officer in charge of elections must only include the number of voters and the number of cast vote records in the transmission to the SOS for precincts, precinct splits and ballot styles containing fewer than 25 registered voters. The cast vote record is a public record.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1280 would place constitutionally protected voter privacy at risk.

false documents; recording; violations (S.B. 1310) – VETOED

Increases, from a class 1 misdemeanor to a class 4 felony, the penalty for filing a document with the county recorder that asserts a claim to real property when the person knows the document is forged, groundless, contains a material misstatement or is otherwise invalid.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1310 does not solve the problem of home title fraud in Arizona.

voter registration rolls; internet access (S.B. 1375) – VETOED

Requires the Secretary of State and each county recorder and other officer in charge of elections to provide electronic access to voter registration information and official precinct lists to persons who: 1) request the information for noncommercial use and attest that the information will not be used for commercial purposes; 2) establish an electronic profile with the information provider; and 3) pay a prescribed fee. The county recorder must provide public access to the voter registration rolls through an internet portal that allows the information to be downloaded but may not charge a fee solely to access the voter registration rolls. Removes the prohibition against a person distributing, posting or providing internet access to any portion of information derived from voter registration forms or precinct registers.

Before leaving a county voting location at the end of an election day, the inspector must send the data from the county voting location ballot report to the election department for the officer in charge of elections to make available as a public record by the time of the last posting of election results for that election night. Allows the county officer in charge of elections to perform a post-election early ballot hand count of up to 100 percent of the early ballots cast against the tabulation report, at the discretion of the county board of supervisors.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1375 fails to adequately safeguard voter registration information from being redistributed or posted online and risks the information being misused or used for commercial purposes.

attorney discipline investigations; costs (S.B. 1435) – VETOED

Adds an attorney's loss of earnings to the costs that the State Bar of Arizona (SBA) must pay when the attorney prevails in an attorney discipline matter and allows the attorney to file a claim against the SBA if the attorney's reputation is damaged. An attorney's lost earnings are calculated during the time period covering all stages of the investigation and discipline process and any court litigation and appeal, if applicable.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1435 appears to attempt to circumvent a specific disciplinary case.

school districts; partisan elections (S.B. 1441) – VETOED

Requires, for elections beginning January 1, 2026, school district governing board election ballots to include each candidate's partisan designation. A candidate's partisan designation is the political party of which the candidate is a qualified elector 150 days before the primary election.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that she maintains her viewpoint from last session that partisan politics do not belong in Arizona's schools.

initiatives; existing laws; impact statement (S.B. 1463) – VETOED

Requires a ballot initiative description to include a list of statutes that are likely to conflict with or be impacted by the proposed measure with a brief summary of the conflict or impact.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that proponents of a ballot measure should not be compelled to make their opponents' arguments for them.

ballot measures; description; legislative council (S.B. 1534) – VETOED

Requires the Legislative Council, rather than the Secretary of State (SOS) and the Attorney General (AG), to prepare descriptive titles for proposed ballot measures and constitutional amendments and a brief phrase that describes the effects of a *yes* or *no* vote. A city or town clerk or other officer in charge of elections and the county attorney are responsible for descriptive titles and phrases for city, town and county ballot measures.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1534 unnecessarily alters the responsibility of the AG and SOS to prepare descriptive titles and ballot language.

cities and towns; primary elections (S.B. 1536) – VETOED

Adds the resolution of any election contest to the requirements that must be satisfied before declaring a candidate elected for a new term in the office of mayor or city council, when the office is currently being served by appointment.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1536 may incentivize frivolous election contests and deny Arizona voters representation from the voters' elected representatives while such contests play out.

gender transition procedures; provider liability (S.B. 1586) – VETOED

States that a health care professional or physician who provides or has provided a gender transition procedure to a minor is: 1) strictly and personally liable for all costs associated with any subsequent detransition procedures within 25 years after the transition procedure; and 2) strictly liable to that minor if the treatment or the treatment's aftereffects, including a subsequent detransition procedure, result in any injury within 25 years after the transition procedure. A person who undergoes a detransition procedure and is under 26 years old may bring a civil action against the health care professional or physician for the costs of any detransition procedure, any other appropriate relief and attorney fees and costs. A person who suffers an injury as prescribed, or that person's legal guardian, may bring a civil action either within eight years after the person's 18th birthday or four years after the discovery of the injury and the causal relationship between the treatment and injury, whichever is later, against the health care professional or physician for specified damages and costs. Prohibits a health care professional or physician from seeking a contractual waiver of liability for gender transition or detransition procedures.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that medical malpractice statutes currently exist to give patients a private right of action related to matters of informed consent and S.B. 1586 would not increase opportunity, security or freedom for Arizonans.

concealed weapons permits; fees (S.B. 1591) – VETOED

Requires the Department of Public Safety to charge a fee to Arizona residents for a concealed carry weapon permit application that equals 10 percent of the fee charged to nonresidents.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that without supplemental funding, reducing fees would defund the Concealed Weapons Permit Unit.

firearms; state preemption; civil penalty (S.B. 1705) – VETOED

Allows the court to assess a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 against an elected or appointed official or administrative agency head who knowingly and willfully violates firearm preemption laws. Public monies may not be used to defend or reimburse such unlawful conduct.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that there are already existing mechanisms to challenge city ordinances.

fentanyl; nine grams (S.B. 1725) – VETOED

Decreases, from 200 grams to 9 grams, the statutory threshold amount of fentanyl that must be involved in a sale to another person for specific sentencing ranges to apply.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that she stands by legislation that she signed last year that established mandatory minimums for high volume fentanyl traffickers.

voter registration cards; mailing limitation (H.B. 2004) – VETOED

Prohibits a county recorder from providing an initial or updated voter registration card to an elector whose mailing address is outside of Arizona, except for absent U.S. Uniformed Service voters, overseas voters and Arizona residents who are not served by a U.S. Post Office in Arizona.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2004 places burdens on lawfully registered voters.

election mailings; third-party disclosures (H.B. 2006) – VETOED

Requires any nongovernmental person or entity that mails an official election-related document or a document that resembles an official election-related document from a county recorder, county officer in charge of elections or the Secretary of State to include the words *not from a government agency* in bold, clearly legible print on the outside of the envelope.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that the broad language of H.B. 2006 could discourage qualified citizens from registering to vote.

voter registrations; payment prohibited (H.B. 2007) – VETOED

Prohibits a person from paying or receiving money or anything of value based on the number of voter registration forms collected, completed or submitted.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2007 hinders voter registration efforts.

voting centers ban; precinct size (H.B. 2017) – VETOED

Removes the authority for the county board of supervisors and county recorder to establish voting centers and on-site early voting locations, respectively. An election precinct may not exceed 1,000 registered voters at the time election precincts are designated.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2017 makes it harder for eligible voters to exercise their constitutional right to vote and that the voting center model provides flexibility for eligible voters to vote where it is most convenient for the voter.

audits; precincts; voting centers (H.B. 2046) – VETOED

Includes voting centers in the pool of precincts within a county from which the ballots for the hand count audit of every countywide primary, special, general and presidential preference election are randomly selected. The unofficial vote totals from each voting center must be made public before randomly selecting the precincts and voting centers to be hand counted. The hand count audit must begin immediately after the selection, except that the hand count of early ballots must begin within 24 hours after the completion of early ballot tabulation and immediately after the precincts or batches of early ballots are selected for the hand count.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that requiring separate hand-count audits for early and election day ballots is inefficient and cumbersome for election officials.

provisional ballots; cure data (H.B. 2050) – VETOED

Adds voters who voted by provisional ballot to the list of voters whose signatures require curing.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that there is no need to provide a list of provisional ballot voters to the political parties because provisional ballots must be researched and verified by election officials and cannot be cured by the voter.

state sovereign authority; elections (H.B. 2060) – VETOED

Asserts that the qualifications to vote for federal office in Arizona elections must be as prescribed by Arizona elections statutes for state and local elections, including qualifications relating to citizenship and residency.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2060 is at odds with federal law and exposes the state to litigation.

voting locations; political party observers (H.B. 2153) – VETOED

Adds on-site early, emergency early and other early voting locations to the voting locations at which a county party chairperson may designate persons to act as challengers for the respective political party. Requires, rather than allows, one challenger to be present at each of the outlined voting locations, if designated by a county party chairperson.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2153 will strain resources of counties that struggle with recruiting poll workers by adding additional responsibilities to manage observers who would be required to act as challengers.

early voting list; undeliverable ballots (H.B. 2154) – VETOED

Requires the county recorder or officer in charge of elections to move a voter to inactive status and remove the voter from the Active Early Voting List (AEVL) if an AEVL notice mailed to the voter is returned undeliverable. A county recorder is not required to take necessary steps to contact the voter at the voter's new residence address.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2154 likely contradicts procedure required by the National Voter Registration Act.

election procedures manual; authority (H.B. 2205) – VETOED

Asserts that the requirement for the Secretary of State (SOS) to adopt an Elections Procedures Manual (EPM) must not be construed as an excessive delegation of legislative powers and that the EPM only has the force of law for provisions that the Legislature has specifically authorized the SOS to include.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that the scope of authority for the EPM is already contained in the statute requiring its creation.

multistate voter registration system; prohibition (H.B. 2206) – VETOED

Prohibits the state from being a member of the Electronic Registration Information Center and allows the Secretary of State (SOS) to become a member of a similar voter registration entity as outlined. The SOS may become a member of a voter registration entity if certain requirements are met, including a requirement for the SOS to submit an annual report to the Legislature detailing the number of voters removed from the system and the reasons for removal.

Requires a county recorder to suspend a voter's registration after receiving information that the voter is ineligible to vote. The voter must be notified of the reason for the suspension and must reregister to vote if their registration is subsequently cancelled, except that a voter's registration may not be cancelled later than 90 days before the date of a primary or general election that includes a federal office. A county recorder must establish a general voter list maintenance program, which may use model forms provided by the SOS. If a voter does not vote during an election cycle or update voter registration information as necessary, a county recorder that does not use the postal service's change of address system must send the voter a physical or digital notice to verify or correct their registration information.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2206 adds bureaucracy to the maintenance process of Arizona's state voter registration list and imposes additional costs on county recorders.

settlement agreements; report; approval (H.B. 2222) – VETOED

Requires a city, town and county, at least 90 days before entering into a settlement agreement involving \$500,000 or more, to submit the proposed settlement agreement's terms to the Governor, Legislature and Attorney General (AG). If a settlement agreement involves \$1,000,000 or more, the agreement must be submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) for review and possible recommendations. A settlement agreement of \$1,000,000 or more that is not submitted to JLBC is not considered legally binding and is considered a matter of statewide concern. The AG must also submit a proposed settlement agreement's terms to the Legislature at least 30 days before entering into the settlement agreement. Outlines exemptions from the settlement agreement requirements.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2222 is government overreach on the part of the Legislature.

~~parental alienation; testimony; prohibition (NOW: parenting time hearings; testimony; prohibition) (NOW: domestic proceedings; therapeutic intervention; prohibition) (H.B. 2256) – VETOED~~

Defines *therapeutic intervention* as any therapy, treatment or counseling program designed to improve or maintain the parent-child relationship, parent-parent relationship or both, including court-ordered behavioral intervention. A court may not order a party to pay for

therapeutic intervention in any legal decision-making or parenting time proceeding without the consent of that party. Expert testimony relating to therapeutic intervention, child development, mental or physical health, domestic violence or substance abuse is only admissible if the: 1) expert specializes in child development and has substantial clinical experience with children in a therapeutic setting; and 2) expert's opinion is supported by the canons of the expert's profession, adheres to the guidelines of the appropriate licensing board and relies only on theories clinically established.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2256 would result in unintended consequences and she urges the proponents to work with the Administrative Office of the Courts, family court judges and court appointed advisors.

~~technical correction; unclaimed property; interest~~ (NOW: forfeiture; digital assets; reserve fund) ([H.B. 2324](#)) – VETOED

[SEE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.](#)

drug-free homeless zones ([H.B. 2437](#)) – VETOED

Establishes drug-free homeless service zones and deems it unlawful for a person to: 1) intentionally be present in a drug-free homeless service zone to sell or transfer dangerous or narcotic drugs; and 2) knowingly violate any formal policy adopted by the facility that prohibits the use or possession of dangerous or narcotic drugs, if the person is an employee of a facility-based service that primarily serves homeless individuals and receives state, local or federal monies.

A person who is present in a drug-free homeless service zone to sell or transfer dangerous or narcotic drugs is guilty of the same class of felony of which the person would otherwise be guilty, except that the presumptive, minimum and maximum sentences must be increased by one year and the person is ineligible for suspension of sentence, probation or early release. An employee who knowingly violates any adopted formal drug-free homeless service zone policy is guilty of a class 1 misdemeanor. In addition to any other prescribed penalty, the court must order a person convicted of a drug-free homeless service zone violation to pay a fine that is the greater of at least \$2,000 or three times the value of the drugs involved, without exceeding statutory maximums. A judge may not suspend the imposition of any fine incurred as a result of a drug-free homeless service zone violation.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) for H.B. 2437 that social workers and service providers should focus on engaging people in services, not enforcing criminal laws.

birth certificates; amendments; prohibition ([H.B. 2438](#)) – VETOED

[SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.](#)

attorney general; election certification; prohibition (H.B. 2440) – VETOED

Beginning January 1, 2026, prohibits the Attorney General (AG) from taking criminal or civil action against a member of a county board of supervisors (county BOS) based on the member's vote against certifying the canvass of an election when the member's vote is based on: 1) a good faith belief that there are unresolved issues materially affecting the integrity or accuracy of the election results; or 2) documentation or other evidence presented to the county BOS which suggests potential irregularities or errors in the elections process. The prohibition does not preclude the AG from investigating or prosecuting other election-related offenses that are not directly related to the member's vote against the certification. Defines *good faith belief* as a belief that is honestly held by the person and that is not arbitrary, capricious or driven by partisan motives.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that any violation of law should be properly prosecuted and that no one should be above the law.

DCS; hearings; complete disclosure requirements (H.B. 2541) – VETOED

Requires a dependency petition or a petition to terminate parental rights to include a notarized affidavit from the petitioner stating that there has been full disclosure and an exchange of all information in the custody of the Department of Child Safety (DCS) and any other evidence relating to the subject of the petition. The affidavit must include a description of the information in DCS's custody, any other disclosed evidence and the method and date of disclosure for each piece of information or evidence.

In addition to the prescribed procedures that the court must follow at a dependency adjudication hearing, if the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the allegations contained in the dependency petition are true, the court must order DCS to file a report within six months after the hearing which: 1) indicates whether or not the child continues to be a dependent child based on the allegations and information contained in the dependency petition; and 2) contains documentation that evidences a change in the child's dependency status or the allegations or information contained in the dependency petition.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2541 is overly broad and would require significant operational enhancements to implement.

electoral college; support (H.B. 2649) – VETOED

Declares that the Legislature affirms the importance of the electoral college for presidential elections in the United States for specified reasons.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2649 does not make substantive policy and would be better served as a House Resolution.

voting equipment; requirements; origin ([H.B. 2651](#)) – VETOED

Beginning January 1, 2029, prohibits the Secretary of State from certifying vote recording and vote tabulating machines or devices used for federal, state or county elections unless 100 percent of the machine's or device's parts and components are sourced from and manufactured or assembled in the United States. Exempts machines or devices acquired before January 1, 2028, from the prohibition.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2651 is predicted on conspiracy theories rather than fact.

DCS; kinship care placement; requirement ([H.B. 2671](#)) – VETOED

Requires a court to order a child who is in the temporary custody of the Department of Child Safety (DCS) to be placed with a kinship foster placement within 48 hours after an initial dependency hearing, if the placement is available and in the child's best interest. Adds extended family members to the list of persons considered as kinship foster care placements and requires extended family members to be included in any investigations and proceedings related to identifying a kinship foster care placement for a child. DCS must file a report regarding ongoing efforts to locate a kinship foster care placement with the court every 30 days for at least six months. Certain rights of a foster child relating to placement only apply when the right does not create a risk to the child's safety, the safety of the child's siblings or the safety of another member of the household.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2671 is unnecessary as extended family members of children in DCS custody are already included in kinship search and placement practices, consistent with state and federal law.

early voting; tabulation; ballot deadlines ([H.B. 2703/S.B. 1011](#)) – VETOED

Modifies early voting procedures and requirements. Voted early ballots must be received by the voting location by 7:00 p.m. on the Friday before election day, rather than 7:00 p.m. on election day, except that voted early ballots may still be delivered or mailed to the office of the county recorder by 7:00 p.m. on election day. Removes emergency voting that occurs between 7:00 p.m. on the Friday before election day and 5:00 p.m. on the Monday before election day while extending on-site early voting to the Saturday, Sunday and Monday before election day.

Requires an early mail voter, in order to receive an early ballot and regardless of whether the voter is enrolled in the Active Early Voting List, to confirm their address every election cycle if the voter lives in Maricopa, Pima or Pinal County or every four-year period constituting two consecutive election cycles if the voter lives in any other county. An address confirmation received after the last day to request an early ballot must be processed for the next upcoming election. Outlines requirements for county recorders relating to address confirmation and notification.

Allows a county recorder that provides for on-site tabulation of early ballots to do so at any time during the period of early voting, rather than only on election day. If a county provides for on-site tabulation, an in-person early voter who appears at an on-site tabulation location on the Saturday, Sunday or Monday before election day must submit the voter's early ballot and affidavit and be allowed to tabulate an early ballot on-site as prescribed. The county board of supervisors or other officer in charge of elections in a county that provides for on-site tabulation must test tabulating equipment for logic and accuracy within 50 days of election day. A county that does not provide for on-site tabulation must post on its website the number of early ballots returned at voting locations on election day, along with unofficial election night results.

Removes the authority of a school principal to deny a request from the officer in charge of elections to provide space for use as a polling place for an election.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that while she too wants faster election results, the solution should not restrict Arizona citizens' freedom to vote.

voter registrations; transportation department; recorders (H.B. 2767) – VETOED

Beginning January 1, 2026, requires the Arizona Department of Transportation to simultaneously transmit voter registration information directly to the Secretary of State and the appropriate county recorder. All voter registration information must be sent to county recorders within five business days after receipt.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2767 inaccurately represents the maintenance of voter registration information and would place significant costs on county recorders.

Military Affairs & Border Security Committee

Senator David Gowan, Chairperson



Kiyahna Araza, Research Analyst
Nick Gustoff, Assistant Research Analyst
Anna Grothe, Intern

MILITARY AFFAIRS & BORDER SECURITY COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

~~constables; report; board of supervisors~~ (NOW: land ownership; designated countries; prohibition) ([S.B. 1082](#)) – Chapter 253

Prohibits a *foreign adversary nation* or *agent* from obtaining a substantial interest of 30 percent or more in real property in Arizona. A *foreign adversary nation* or *agent* may acquire real property or any interest in real property acquired by devise or descent, the enforcement of security interests or the collection of debt if the nation or agent sells, transfers or otherwise divests from the real property within 120 days after acquisition.

The Attorney General (AG) must enforce the prohibition which may not be based on a person's race or national origin. If the AG reasonably suspects a violation of the prohibition has occurred, the AG: 1) may commence an action in superior court; and 2) must report the matter to the Committee on Foreign Investments in the United States and to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for suspected espionage activity or other law enforcement agencies with the statutory authority to investigate those cases. If the superior court finds that title or a substantial interest in real property was obtained in violation of the prohibition, the court must enter an order stating the court's findings, divesting the person's interest and directing the county board of supervisors to sell the property. Prescribes requirements and an order of priority for the real property sale proceeds. Classifies, as a class 1 misdemeanor, knowingly making a false, fraudulent or unfounded report or statement regarding an alleged violation to a law enforcement agency or political subdivision.

A title insurer, title or escrow agent or real estate licensee may not be held liable for a violation of the prohibition and prescribed enforcement requirements. A violation of the prohibition and prescribed enforcement requirements may not be used as the basis for a title insurance claim for any title insurance policy issued for property in Arizona.

~~veterans; emergency admission; transport~~ ([S.B. 1163](#)) – Chapter 62 E

An emergency measure effective April 18, 2025, that allows a police officer who is employed by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (federal officer) to apply for the emergency admission or apprehension and transportation of a U.S. Armed Forces veteran to a screening or evaluation agency. A federal officer who acts in good faith is immune from civil liability and must take reasonable precautions to safeguard the premises and property of the apprehended person.

~~adjutant general; duties~~ ([S.B. 1281](#)) – Chapter 256

Beginning January 1, 2027, modifies the qualification requirements of the Adjutant General of Arizona (TAG) by requiring a TAG appointee to: 1) be a current Arizona resident, rather than establish domicile in Arizona for residency purposes; and 2) be a general officer who is currently serving, or has been on retired status for no more than 24 months, and have at least five years of service in the National Guard with the rank of colonel or higher. If a TAG appointee

is not already a general officer, the person must attain federal recognition in a grade of at least brigadier general within two years after appointment. A person who is currently serving and is being considered for appointment to TAG must provide evidence of good standing with current U.S. Army or Air Force requirements for military service to the Governor-designated agency, department or office before appointment and by the deadline stipulated. A retired general officer who is selected for appointment to TAG must provide evidence of good standing with current U.S. Army or Air Force requirements for military service to the Governor within six months after appointment. A TAG appointment is terminated if the appointee fails to meet service standards or any other qualification within the time prescribed.

Updates the qualification requirements for assistant TAGs to include receiving federal recognition of general officer within 24 months of appointment and being in good standing with current U.S. Army or Air Force standards or requirements for military service at the time of the federal recognition.

Allows, rather than requires, TAG to establish an educational program, designated as *Project Challenge*, subject to the Governor's approval and legislative appropriation. With the Governor's approval, TAG may enter into a contract or agreement with an individual or political subdivision to facilitate safety, emergency operations, aircraft maintenance, movement or storage, training or personnel recruitment and retention.

driver licenses; reciprocity; foreign military ([S.B. 1332](#)) – Chapter 158

Requires the Arizona Department of Transportation to issue a class D or M driver license and waive the required written and driving examinations for an active duty member of the armed forces of a foreign country that is a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization that recognizes reciprocal driver permits or licenses, if the person: 1) has military orders to be stationed within Arizona and is between 18 years old and 75 years old; and 2) presents documentation issued by the U.S. government authorizing the person to be in the United States, if applicable. The expiration of a license issued to a foreign military member is the same date as the expiration of the person's authorizing documentation.

vehicle license tax; exemption; military ([H.B. 2009](#)) – Chapter 78

[SEE THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.](#)

unmanned aircraft; qualified immunity ([H.B. 2733](#)) – Chapter 89

Immunizes a public entity or employee from being liable to an operator of an unmanned aircraft for any injury to personal property caused by a peace officer intercepting, capturing, disabling, shooting, destroying or otherwise rendering inoperative the aircraft within 15 miles of Arizona's international border if the officer had reasonable suspicion that the aircraft was being used to commit a violation relating to organized crime, fraud, terrorism or a drug or imitation substance or drug offense.

military bases; exemption from ESA ([H.C.M. 2004](#))

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

gold star families; legacy preservation ([H.C.R. 2010](#))

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

LEGISLATION VETOED

ADWR; hydrology reports (NOW: government; compliance; immigration; deportation) ([S.B. 1088](#)) – VETOED

[SEE THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.](#)

designated countries; land ownership; prohibition ([S.B. 1109](#)) – VETOED

Prohibits the People's Republic of China (PRC) from purchasing, owning, acquiring or having a substantial ownership interest of 30 percent or more in real property in Arizona, excluding property or interest in property that is: 1) acquired by devise or descent, the enforcement of security interests or the collection of debt; and 2) sold, transferred or otherwise divested from within three years after acquisition. If the Attorney General (AG) reasonably suspects a violation has occurred, the AG must enforce the prohibition and commence an action in the superior court. If the superior court finds that title or a substantial interest in real property was obtained in violation of the prohibition, the court must enter an order stating the court's findings, divesting the PRC's interest and directing the county board of supervisors to sell the property and distribute the remaining proceeds, as outlined.

A title insurer, title or escrow agent or real estate licensee may not be held liable for a violation of the prohibition and prescribed enforcement requirements. A violation of the prohibition and prescribed enforcement requirements may not be used as the basis for a title insurance claim for any title insurance policy issued for property in Arizona.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1109 is ineffective at counter-espionage, does not protect military assets, lacks clear implementation criteria and opens the door to arbitrary enforcement.

immigration laws; local enforcement ([S.B. 1164](#)) – VETOED

Retroactive to January 1, 2025, establishes the Arizona Immigration, Cooperation and Enforcement Act (Arizona ICE Act) as follows:

Federal Immigration Detainers and Detainees – Requires each *law enforcement agency* (LEA), defined as the Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR) or a county sheriff's office, that has custody of a person subject to an immigration detainer request issued by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (U.S. ICE) to: 1) inform the person that the person is being held pursuant to the request; 2) record the request in the person's case file;

3) comply with, honor and fulfill any request made in the request once the detainer is determined to be facially sufficient; and 4) notify the appropriate judge that the person is subject to a detainer who must cause the fact to be in the court record. A federal immigration detainer request is facially sufficient if the U.S. ICE official form is: 1) complete and indicates that the federal immigration official has probable cause to believe that the person is a removable alien under federal law; or 2) incomplete and fails to indicate probable cause, if supported by an affidavit, order or other official documentation that indicates U.S. ICE has probable cause and is accompanied by a federally authorized warrant.

Requires the director of each correctional facility within the control of ADCRR or a county sheriff's office to enter into an agreement with U.S. ICE for the temporary housing of and the payment of housing and detaining costs for persons who are the subject of immigration detainers and outlines the agreement contents. Subject to available monies, the director of a correctional facility must house persons who are the subject of immigration detainers.

Cooperating with Federal Immigration Authorities – Encourages each county, city, town, political subdivision and state official or agency to enter into memorandums of agreement (MOAs) with federal agencies to enforce federal immigration laws, directs state agencies to consider incentive programs and grant funding to support the establishment of MOAs and preempts a state official or agency and any city, town, county or political subdivision from: 1) establishing, adopting or enforcing any policy, pattern or practice that prohibits or restricts cooperation with federal authorities in the enforcement of immigration laws; and 2) prohibiting the use of available federal resources for any public safety purpose related to immigration enforcement.

The Arizona ICE Act, and any MOA authorized by the Act, does not prevent any county, city, town, political subdivision or *LEA*, defined as ADCRR, the Department of Public Safety, county sheriff's offices and municipal police departments, from enforcing federal immigration laws.

Enforcement – At the written request of a legislative member, the Attorney General (AG) must investigate an alleged violation of the preemption on prohibiting or restricting cooperation with federal immigration authorities. The AG may file an action in superior court to enforce compliance and must compose a written report within 30 days after receiving a request.

The AG may bring an action to enforce the requirements of the Arizona ICE Act for appropriate injunctive relief to bring an LEA or a correctional facility director into compliance. An Arizona taxpayer of the county of the applicable LEA or correctional facility may request, in writing, that the AG institute an action. If the AG fails to institute an action 60 days after the written request is made, the requesting taxpayer may institute the action in the taxpayer's name and at the taxpayer's own expense with the same effect as if brought by the AG.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1164 would force state and local officials to take marching orders from the federal administration.

hospitals; patient immigration status; reporting (S.B. 1268) – VETOED

Requires each hospital that accepts payment from the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) to include a place on the admission or registration form to indicate whether a patient is lawfully or unlawfully in the United States or a U.S. citizen, followed

by a statement that the response will not affect the patient's care or be reported to immigration authorities. Each participating hospital must report quarterly to the Department of Health Services (DHS) the number of admissions or emergency department visits made by patients who indicated citizenship status or declined to answer (admissions or visits).

By March 1 of each year, DHS must report to the Governor, Legislature and Secretary of State: 1) the total number of admissions and visits submitted by participating hospitals; and 2) information relating to hospital funding needs and the cost and impact of uncompensated care on the ability of hospitals to provide services. DHS may adopt rules for the quarterly reports and the acceptable format for hospitals to ask a patient's immigration status which may not require the disclosure of a patient's name or any other personal identifying information to DHS.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that undocumented immigrants are not eligible for AHCCCS and S.B. 1268 is opposed by business leaders, hospitals and others who believe immigration is best left to federal law enforcement, rather than health care professionals.

county detention facilities; arrestees; information (S.B. 1610) – VETOED

Requires a county detention facility to: 1) comply with and honor any requests made by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (U.S. ICE); 2) transmit, daily or on request of U.S. ICE, specified personal information of any person arrested for outlined crimes relating to burglary, theft, aggravated assault or any other offense that results in death or serious bodily injury (arrestee); and 3) provide, on the request of U.S. ICE, an arrestee's photograph and any other physical descriptors and access to an arrestee for an interview. The compliance requirements do not apply to a county detention facility where a U.S. ICE agent is stationed or if the facility has an employee who is approved by U.S. ICE to conduct immigration and customs screenings.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that she expects state and local governments to uphold the law and work with the federal government to secure the border but S.B. 1610 would place extreme burdens on local law enforcement and state law already bans sanctuary localities.

governor; attorney general; duties; immigration (H.B. 2099) – VETOED

Requires, until January 20, 2029, the Governor, the Attorney General and each city, town and county to enforce, administer and cooperate with actions, orders and programs that relate to the enforcement of federal immigration laws.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2099 would force state officials to take marching orders from the federal administration and that she will continue to work with the federal government on true border security.

Natural Resources Committee

Senator T.J. Shope, Chairperson



Sawyer Bessler, Research Analyst
Sarah Nutter, Intern

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

liquified petroleum gas containers; penalties. (S.B. 1056) – Chapter 177

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

implements of husbandry; autonomous; automated (S.B. 1320) – Chapter 19

[SEE THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.](#)

state fire marshal; phased permitting (S.B. 1348) – Chapter 99

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

~~physical availability exemption credit; groundwater~~ (NOW: groundwater savings credit; ADWR) (S.B. 1611/H.B. 2298) – Chapter 252

Allows a person who owns land within the Phoenix or Pinal active management areas (AMAs) that may be legally irrigated with groundwater pursuant to an irrigation grandfathered right (IGFR) to apply to the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) to permanently relinquish all IGFRs in exchange for groundwater savings credits. The Director of ADWR (Director) must approve an application if: 1) the person's IGFR use complies with outlined requirements and the applicable management plan; 2) for each IGFR relinquished, the Director determines that the land to which the IGFR is appurtenant has been legally irrigated with groundwater in at least three of the preceding five years; 3) the person has filed all statutorily required reports relating to groundwater pumping, transportation and use for the last five years; 4) the person does not maintain a negative balance in the person's flexibility account; and 5) ADWR has not issued a certificate of assured water supply for the acres associated with the relinquishment.

The Director must quantify groundwater savings credits in acre-feet by multiplying the acres associated with the relinquishment by the following conservation multiplier: 1) 150 in the Phoenix AMA; and 2) 100 in the Pinal AMA. A person may not receive groundwater savings credits for a volume of water that exceeds 60 times the mean amount of groundwater used annually pursuant to the IGFR in the three years with the highest use during the five years preceding an application for IGFR relinquishment.

If outlined conditions apply, the volume of groundwater withdrawn, or stored water recovered outside of the area of impact of storage (stored water), associated with groundwater savings credits calculated for the purposes of an application of assured water supply is exempt from the requirement to demonstrate that the groundwater is physically available. The Director must determine whether an applicant satisfies outlined criteria relating to the demonstration that

groundwater or stored water may be withdrawn to serve the proposed use for 100 years without exceeding the depth of the aquifer or a depth-to-static water level limit of: 1) 1,000 feet below land surface for the Phoenix AMA; or 2) 1,100 feet below land surface for the Pinal AMA.

Until December 31, 2030, a person who holds groundwater savings credits may pledge the credits to an assured water supply application that proposes to rely on credits or assign the credits to the subsequent owner of the acres associated with relinquishment. After the Director issues a certificate of assured water supply based on groundwater savings credits, the service area of a designated provider is extended to include the subdivision for which the certificate of assured water supply was issued. The current owners of acres associated with relinquishment may apply to the Director to restore relinquished IGFRs and rescind all groundwater saving credits issued if the groundwater savings credits have not been pledged to a certificate of assured water supply or a designated provider.

Authorizes the Director to adopt rules to implement a groundwater savings program in the Tucson AMA that includes parameters applicable to the Tucson AMA if the Director determines outlined conditions apply.

Outlines reporting, rulemaking and administrative requirements for the Director, including a requirement to establish a groundwater savings program through rulemaking by December 31, 2035. By December 31, 2033, the Director must make a determination on whether extending the groundwater savings program is in the best interest of each AMA. If the Director determines that extending the groundwater savings program is in the best interest of an AMA, the Director must include provisions in expedited rulemaking for the issuance of new groundwater savings credits in the AMA for an additional 10 years. Repeals the groundwater savings program and associated requirements on January 1, 2036.

A municipality located within an initial AMA may not adopt or enforce any code, ordinance, rule or other regulation that requires a subdivision where groundwater savings credits have been pledged to a certificate of assured water supply to include specified amounts of turf, plants, irrigated ground cover, active open space, rights-of-way or water parks and decorative features. In a subdivision where groundwater savings credits have been pledged to a certificate of assured water supply, a municipality may not: 1) increase lot sizes or reduce lot yield once zoning is approved; or 2) increase the size of a right-of-way for the purpose of additional landscape area.

Declares the efficient use of water as a matter of statewide concern.

underground storage tanks; reimbursement ([S.B. 1730](#)) – Chapter 77

Requires an applicant for reimbursement from the Underground Storage Tank Revolving Fund (Fund) to apply to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) within one year after the completion of work. For projects approved before September 1, 2025, applicants must apply for reimbursement and submit all required documentation needed for cost reimbursement to ADEQ by February 1, 2026, or one year after the completion of work, whichever is later.

By September 1, 2025, and each year thereafter, ADEQ must annually compile a report on the Fund preapproval process that includes: 1) the monies associated with preapproved applications; 2) the dollar amount associated with each preapproved application; and 3) the dollar amount associated with each preapproved application that ADEQ has yet to distribute. ADEQ must submit the report to the Governor, Legislature and Secretary of State.

minerals; land inventory; technical correction (NOW: emissions; voluntary vehicle repair; timeline) ([H.B. 2104](#)) – Chapter 122

Renames the *Voluntary Vehicle Repair and Retrofit Program* as the *Voluntary Vehicle Repair Program* (VVRP) and adds, to the VVRP eligibility criteria, a requirement that the vehicle owner must repair the vehicle within 60 days after acceptance in the VVRP. Removes the requirement that the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) must cooperate with the applicable county to operate and administer an Emissions Control Repair Program. Removes failing any random roadside vehicle test conducted by the state from the criteria that allows diesel powered motor vehicles with a gross vehicle rating of more than 8,500 pounds and that are subject to the Vehicle Emissions and Inspection Program to be eligible for up to \$1,000 in repair costs from the VVRP.

Extends the termination date for the Waste Tire Program and Waste Tire Fund from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2029.

hazardous substance release; notice; liability ([H.B. 2127](#)) – Chapter 42

Requires the owner of a qualifying property to provide written notice that there has been a release or threatened release of a hazardous substance on the property to: 1) any property prospective buyer before conveying the property; 2) the Director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality when listing or offering the property for sale and at the completion of a purchase; and 3) if the site is a mine or abandoned mine, the State Mine Inspector when listing or offering the property for sale and at the completion of a purchase.

environmental remediation; liability; release ([H.B. 2128](#)) – Chapter 50

Allows the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) to provide a prospective site remediator a written release and covenant to not sue if prescribed conditions are met, including a requirement on the Director of ADEQ to determine if the prospective remediator has the technical capability, financial capability and requisite access to perform substantial remedial action at the facility. An agreement between ADEQ and a prospective remediator may include a demonstration that the prospective remediator possesses the capability and access to sufficiently conduct the remedial measures. Applies the statutory requirements and conditions on a prospective purchaser that is in a prospective purchaser agreement with ADEQ to a prospective remediator, including an exemption from liability for any release of a hazardous substance at the facility that exists on the agreement date.

~~technical correction; electricity; power authority~~ (NOW: wildfire mitigation planning; utilities; approval) ([H.B. 2201](#)) – Chapter 167

[SEE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.](#)

on-site wastewater treatment; general permit ([H.B. 2232](#)) – Chapter 26

Requires the Director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), by January 1, 2026, to issue a general permit authorizing a liquid effluent collection system that is designed as a septic tank effluent pump or gravity system, complies with statutorily prescribed requirements and is owned or operated by a single person. Adds, to the requirements for specified on-site wastewater treatment facilities to discharge under a general permit, a requirement that the facility must be installed by an installer who is certified by the technology manufacturer.

Prohibits the ADEQ Director from requiring any design modifications or fees that are associated with the requirement for a permittee to initiate a transition of the permittee's facility consistent with the revised general permit program. The general permit fees for an on-site wastewater treatment facility and a liquid effluent collection system are exempt from statutory administrative procedure requirements.

municipal separate storm sewer system ([H.B. 2272](#)) – Chapter 132

Modifies the definition of *county* for the purpose of local stormwater quality programs to include counties that operate a regulated medium or large separate storm sewer system.

~~behavioral health examiners board; continuation~~ (NOW: health boards; state agencies; continuations) ([H.B. 2313](#)) – Chapter 249 E

[SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.](#)

native plants; fire prevention; exemption ([H.B. 2577](#)) – Chapter 84

Exempts the Department of Forestry and Fire Management from statutory requirements relating to Arizona native plants when preventing, managing or suppressing wildfires.

hunting; fishing; license; deferred prosecution ([H.B. 2603](#)) – Chapter 54

Expands the Arizona Game and Fish Commission's (Commission's) authority to revoke or suspend a hunting or fishing license or deny a person the right to secure another license or take or possess wildlife for up to five years by allowing the Commission to take such actions: 1) for certain violations involving the taking or possession of wildlife; or 2) upon entering a deferred prosecution agreement for certain violations involving the taking or possession of wildlife. Upon entering a second or third deferred prosecution agreement, the Commission may revoke, suspend or deny a person the privilege to take wildlife in the same manner prescribed for a second or third unlawful taking or wounding of wildlife conviction or adjudication.

An active license revocation for a deferred prosecution agreement terminates after the licensee provides proof that the: 1) licensee satisfactorily completed the terms and obligations of a deferred prosecution program; 2) criminal charges filed against the licensee are dismissed; 3) licensee completed all required training courses; and 4) licensee paid all civil penalties.

on-farm irrigation efficiency program; continuation ([H.B. 2638](#)) – Chapter 219

Extends the On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Pilot Program (Pilot Program) from January 1, 2027, to January 1, 2030. Directs the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension to submit the Pilot Program's annual report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee and to add specified information to the report, including the number of applications received, monies awarded and total acres subject to application and awarded monies. By December 26, 2025, the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension must provide an aggregate report that includes the additional information for each year since the Pilot Program's inception.

power; public utilities; UCC; securities ([H.B. 2679](#)) – Chapter 207

Establishes a process to initiate a securitization transaction by allowing: 1) a public power entity to provide public notice of its intent to adopt a financial resolution; or 2) a qualifying applicant that provides electric service (applicant) to request permission to initiate a securitization transaction from the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) by applying for a financing order. Outlines information that a securitization proposal or financing order application must contain, including specified costs and charges. After public notice, a public power entity must make a securitization proposal available at its main office and on its publicly accessible website. On review of specified information and public comments, the governing body of a public power entity (governing body) or the ACC must adopt a financing resolution that approves, conditionally approves or rejects a proposed transaction. Outlines ACC application, review and approval requirements.

The Attorney General or a party to the proceeding who is dissatisfied with a governing body's financing resolution decision or the ACC's financing order application decision may apply to the governing body or the ACC, as applicable, for a rehearing and file an action in superior court that seeks to vacate, set aside, affirm in part, reverse in part or remand the governing body's or ACC's decision. The superior court must hear and issue a decision on the matter within 60 days after the filing of the action and relief may be awarded in an action that challenges a financing resolution, financing order or related decision that resulted from a financing resolution or a financing order application, if certain conditions are met.

Establishes a process and outlines requirements for the issuance of transition bonds and authorizes a qualified special purpose entity, after the approval of a financing resolution or financing order, to issue one or more series, classes or tranches of transition bonds and to pledge transition property to secure the payment of ongoing financing costs. Prescribes requirements for transition property and stipulates that a transition property is immediately created by operation of law on the approval of a financing order or financing resolution, the creation and capitalization of a qualified special purpose entity and the issuance and receipt of value for the applicable transition bonds. Transition property continues to exist until the corresponding transition bonds and all ongoing financing costs related to the transition bonds have been fully paid.

Outlines requirements for a public power entity and public service corporation acting as a servicer, including a requirement for a public power entity or public service corporation to use its resources and systems to perform the duties of a servicer under a transition billing services tariff.

groundwater replenishment districts; annual dues ([H.B. 2691](#)) – Chapter 148

Requires the calculation for determining the amount of revenues that must be raised through Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District (CAGRD) annual membership dues to use the projected groundwater use per-lot multiplied by the total number of residential, commercial and common area lots included, or intended to be included, in each parcel of member land.

Removes the requirement for the total amount of revenues to be raised through CAGRD annual membership dues from member lands to be prorated among the Phoenix, Pinal and Tucson active management areas (AMAs) based on the current and projected annual replenishment obligation of all member lands in that AMA as identified in the most recent plan of operation determined by the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources.

For billing year 2027, CAGRD may not charge annual membership dues on any parcel of member land at a rate per-lot that is greater than the rate charged per-lot for parcels of member land in the same AMA during billing year 2026.

~~county water authority; post-2024 authority~~ (NOW: county water authority; Harquahala INA) ([H.B. 2727](#)) – Chapter 149

Allows a county water authority to be formed in La Paz County if the La Paz County Board of Supervisors and one or more eligible entities adopt resolutions approving the formation. An *eligible entity* is the state, a political subdivision or a public service corporation regulated by the Arizona Corporation Commission and that holds a certificate of convenience and necessity for water service. A county water authority in La Paz County is exempt from specified statutory county water authority requirements.

A county water authority board in La Paz County must select a chairperson and officers from the county water authority's appointed directors. Members of a county water authority in La Paz County may include an eligible entity that: 1) owns acres or has adopted plans to acquire acres that may be irrigated in the Harquahala Irrigation Non-Expansion Area (INA); 2) has adopted resolutions approving the formation of the county water authority in La Paz County; and 3) are not the state. A municipal corporation and an eligible entity must jointly appoint a person to represent the municipal corporation on the county water authority in La Paz County.

Allows a county water authority to: 1) apportion groundwater from the Harquahala INA; 2) contract for eligible acres in, or groundwater from, the Harquahala INA; and 3) enter into subcontracts with county water authority members and other water providers for the sale, exchange or other disposition of groundwater from the Harquahala INA. Revenues and transportation fees paid to a county water authority must be deposited in specified funds as outlined.

groundwater permits; technical correction (NOW: water supply development; reclamation projects) (H.B. 2737) – Chapter 90

Modifies the definition of *water supply development* for the purpose of the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority to include planning, designing, building or developing water-related facilities for remediation, including by a reclamation or remediation project that is approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and that increases the availability of water.

groundwater replenishment; Pinal AMA (H.B. 2753) – Chapter 216

Allows a municipal provider that applies for a new designation of assured water supply in the Pinal Active Management Area that relies on a member service area agreement from a multi-county water conservation district to elect for parcels of member land to retain a replenishment obligation.

state land transfer; Bullhead City (H.B. 2769) – Chapter 35

Transfers approximately 38.38 acres of state sovereign land in Mohave County from the Arizona State Land Department to Bullhead City for park and public recreation purposes. The State Land Commissioner must deliver a signed and recorded deed or patent to Bullhead City by October 26, 2025. Bullhead City may not sell, exchange or barter the transferred land.

stormwater; groundwater; recharge; urging support (H.C.M. 2003)

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

hardrock mines; remediation; urging support (H.C.M. 2007)

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

EPA; regional offices; move (H.C.M. 2008)

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

San Carlos irrigation project; divestiture (H.C.M. 2009)

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

air quality; ozone levels (H.C.M. 2010)

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

antiquities act; exception ([H.C.M. 2012](#))

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

corporation commission; reliable energy ([H.C.M. 2014](#))

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

reinstatement; WIFA monies ([H.C.R. 2016](#))

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

nuclear energy; Palo Verde; support ([H.C.R. 2022](#))

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

assured water supply; legislative intent ([H.C.R. 2039](#))

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

minerals; metals; supporting domestic supply ([H.C.R. 2044](#))

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

Colorado River; cause of decline ([H.C.R. 2046](#))

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

Yuma agriculture; water rights; supporting ([H.C.R. 2051](#))

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

LEGISLATION VETOED

groundwater model; receipt; written findings (S.B. 1116) – VETOED

Requires the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR), within five days after receiving an alternative groundwater model, to notify the person who submitted the alternative groundwater model of receipt. Within 60 days after receiving an alternative groundwater model, the Director of ADWR must provide a written response that includes prescribed information.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1116 attempts to redirect ADWR's activity to meet arbitrary timelines in reviewing and responding to undefined alternative groundwater models regardless of relevance to any policy or permitting decisions. The Governor states that S.B. 1116 is unnecessary and does not protect consumers or ensure water security.

residential utilities; consumer office; definition (S.B. 1119) – VETOED

Defines *represents the interests of*, for the purpose of the Residential Utility Consumer Office (RUCO), as advocating for the safest and most reliable utility service achievable at the lowest retail rate possible.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1119 hampers the ability of RUCO to protect Arizona consumers and serve as a public defender in utility rate cases.

~~unclaimed property; department of revenue (NOW: San Simon Valley; groundwater; election)~~ (S.B. 1300) – VETOED

Allows the Cochise County Board of Supervisors (BOS) and the Graham County BOS, by July 2, 2026, to vote to place a question on the 2026 general election ballot, for residents that reside within the San Simon Valley Groundwater Subbasin, of whether to designate the portion of the San Simon Valley Groundwater Subbasin that is located in Cochise County or Graham County as an irrigation non-expansion area (INA). If a majority of eligible voters vote in favor of the designation of the San Simon INA, the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR), within 30 days after the general election results are certified, must make and file an order designating the area as an INA.

If the Cochise County BOS or Graham County BOS votes affirmatively on placing the question of designating an INA on the 2026 general election ballot, an irrigation user in the San Simon Valley Groundwater Subbasin that is located in Cochise County or Graham County may only irrigate with groundwater from a non-exempt well from the date of the vote until the date the general election results are certified, if outlined conditions are met. Outlines ballot and election requirements.

In a subsequent INA, only acres of land that were irrigated with groundwater at any time during the five years preceding the date of the notice of the initiation of designation procedures may be irrigated with groundwater. A person withdrawing groundwater from a non-exempt well for an irrigation use may not withdraw more than five acre-feet of groundwater per acre of land

that the person irrigates per year and a person who violates the prohibition is subject to a \$150 penalty. Each person withdrawing groundwater from a non-exempt well for an irrigation use and each person withdrawing more than 10 acre-feet of groundwater per-year from a non-exempt well for a non-irrigation use must use a water measuring device and submit a report to the Director of ADWR, with certain exceptions.

Allows a person who owns acres of land that may be legally irrigated in a subsequent INA to: 1) permanently retire those acres from irrigation and substitute the same number of acres in the same INA if the person demonstrates to the Director of ADWR's satisfaction that the substitution of acres will not lead to a net increase in groundwater withdrawals in the INA; or 2) construct a new non-exempt well for an irrigation use or a replacement non-exempt well in a new location for an irrigation use in the same INA if outlined conditions are met.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1300 fails to address the water policy challenges Arizona residents and communities are facing today and that she will not consider rural groundwater legislation outside the context of ongoing negotiations for an alternative framework for rural groundwater management.

public utilities; electric grid improvements (S.B. 1309) – VETOED

Requires the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC), during the integrated resource planning process, to require a public service corporation to ensure that any changes to maintain or improve an electric power grid are capable of producing enough electricity to provide safe, adequate and reliable service throughout the year. On the retirement of an electric generation plant, the ACC must ensure that a replacement electric generation plant is capable of providing equal or more reliable electric generation.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1309 fails to define specific standards and thus would create regulatory uncertainty that threatens economic growth.

grid security; cybersecurity; reviews; commission (S.B. 1501) – VETOED

Requires the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) to conduct a grid security review at least once every two years or as a part of the ACC's integrated resource planning process or biennial transmission assessment and outlines grid security review requirements for the ACC and investor-owned public service corporations.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1501 expands energy planning requirements without the financial support necessary to administer a sweeping new program.

subsequent AMAs; groundwater portability (S.B. 1518) – VETOED

Allows, in a subsequent active management area (AMA), an owner of an irrigation grandfathered right (IGFR) to use, sell, transfer or lease the IGFR and the water duty associated with those acres. An IGFR owner may choose not to irrigate a set portion of lands attached to the IGFR and may sell, transfer or lease the associated water duty of the acres that are not irrigated to

another irrigator in the subsequent AMA or retain the associated water duty and use the full volume of the associated water duty attached to the acres that the owner does not irrigate anywhere on the farm unit. The Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources must adopt rules to implement the associated water duty requirements.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1518 fails to address the water policy challenges Arizona residents and communities are facing today and that she will not consider rural groundwater legislation outside the context of ongoing negotiations for an alternative framework for rural groundwater management.

corporation commission; non-thermal generating unit (S.B. 1538) – VETOED

Adds, to the definition of *plant* for the purpose of reviews by the Power Plant and Transmission Line Sitting Committee, a non-thermal electric generating unit. Increases the nameplate rating of a thermal or non-thermal electric generating unit from 100 megawatts or more to 200 megawatts or more.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that, because Arizona's continued growth relies on a resilient energy system that can meet increased demand, S.B. 1538 adds red tape to energy project deployment that jeopardizes Arizona's economic growth, stifles Arizona's energy economy and risks the jobs of Arizonans working to power communities, businesses and homes.

~~technical correction; obstructing governmental operations~~ (NOW: egg-laying hens; housing size standards) (S.B. 1721) – VETOED

Prohibits the Arizona Department of Agriculture (AZDA) from adopting rules that require or prescribe minimum housing-size standards for egg-laying hens.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that it is important for AZDA to retain its ability to regulate space standards for egg-laying hens and removing the ability entirely could have serious implications if future action is needed to protect human health or animal welfare.

water improvements program; water hauling (H.B. 2086) – VETOED

Authorizes a county board of supervisors' water improvements program to allow persons to make gifts, grants or donations to provide qualified residential real property owners with financial assistance for the provision of water hauling for water delivery. Adds acquiring or installing storage tanks for receiving and storing water delivered through water hauling to the list of qualifying projects for which water improvements program grant monies must be used.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2086 weakens rural groundwater protections and that she will not consider rural groundwater legislation outside the context of ongoing negotiations for an alternative framework for rural groundwater management.

subsequent AMA; director; removal (H.B. 2088) – VETOED

Requires the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) to periodically review all areas within a subsequent active management area (AMA) to determine if the areas continue to meet the criteria for inclusion in an AMA and allows the Director of ADWR to remove a subsequent AMA's designation if the AMA no longer meets the criteria for inclusion as a subsequent AMA and after holding a public hearing. Outlines public notice, public hearing and administrative requirements.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2088 weakens rural groundwater protections and that she will not consider rural groundwater legislation outside the context of ongoing negotiations for an alternative framework for rural groundwater management.

subsequent AMA; voters; removal (H.B. 2089) – VETOED

Allows, beginning 10 years after a groundwater basin is designated as a subsequent active management area (AMA), 10 percent of registered voters residing within the subsequent AMA's boundaries to file a petition to vote on the removal of the subsequent AMA designation at the next general election. Within 60 days after receiving a petition, the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources must examine the groundwater condition in the basin to determine if the conditions for the designation of a subsequent AMA still exist or the AMA designation is no longer necessary. Prescribes petition, election and ballot procedures and administrative requirements.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2089 weakens rural groundwater protections and that she will not consider rural groundwater legislation outside the context of ongoing negotiations for an alternative framework for rural groundwater management.

acting in concert; evidence; exceptions (H.B. 2090) – VETOED

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

~~land division; applicant submissions; review~~ (NOW: assured water supply; certificate; model) (H.B. 2091) – VETOED

Requires the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR), on request of an applicant, to review the merits of an application for a certificate of assured water supply and issue a new written determination of action if: 1) the application is for land located in the Phoenix Active Management Area; 2) the application was submitted between January 16, 2021, and August 31, 2023; 3) ADWR has not issued the applicant a certificate of assured water supply; and 4) the municipal provider for the land covered by the application has submitted to ADWR a notice of intent to serve that meets outlined requirements. If an application for a certificate of assured water supply was supported using the 2006-2009 Salt River Valley Regional Model or the 2006 Lower Hassayampa Sub-Basin Groundwater Flow Model, ADWR must determine that the application meets the physical availability requirements for groundwater. A certificate of assured water supply issued pursuant to the outlined requirements must relate back as if issued in calendar year 2023.

If a municipal provider enters into a member service area agreement with the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District (CAGR), the minimum amount of excess groundwater that the municipal provider is obligated to report to CAGR in a year and that is subject to an annual replenishment tax, must be reduced by the long-term storage credits transferred to CAGR by the municipal provider in that year. CAGR's purchase of long-term storage credits that are offered by a municipal provider may not affect the annual replenishment assessment charged by CAGR against parcels of member land contained within the land covered by a certificate of assured water supply. Repeals the outlined certificate of assured water supply application modifications on January 1, 2029.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2091 would require the approval of developments without sufficient water supplies and that she will ensure that Arizona's water requirements and consumer protections are upheld.

land divisions; disclosure affidavit; recording ([H.B. 2092](#)) – VETOED

[SEE THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.](#)

real estate; definition of contiguous ([H.B. 2094](#)) – VETOED

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

subsequent AMA; previously nonirrigated land ([H.B. 2202](#)) – VETOED

Retroactive to August 30, 2022, allows a person in a subsequent active management area, on the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources' determination of irrigation grandfathered rights (IGFR), to irrigate land that was not previously subject to irrigation if: 1) the land is adjacent to a farm unit or parcel that was previously subject to irrigation; and 2) the person's irrigation would not cause the person to exceed the volume of groundwater awarded by the IGFR.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2202 weakens rural groundwater protections and that she will not consider rural groundwater legislation outside the context of ongoing negotiations for an alternative framework for rural groundwater management.

historical water use; subsequent AMA ([H.B. 2203](#)) – VETOED

Retroactive to August 30, 2022, increases the number of years used to determine the acres of land within a subsequent active management area (AMA) that are eligible for irrigation and an irrigation grandfathered right (IGFR) or non-irrigation grandfathered right from 5 years to 10 years before the date of the initiation of designation procedures notice or the call for the election to establish the AMA. Requires the calculation for determining the maximum amount of groundwater a person may withdraw under an IGFR or non-irrigation grandfathered right to use the 10-year period, rather than the 5-year period.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2203 does not move toward solving the water policy challenges that Arizona residents and communities are facing today and that she will not consider rural groundwater legislation outside the context of ongoing negotiations for an alternative framework for rural groundwater management.

groundwater model; stormwater recharge; AMAs ([H.B. 2270](#)) – VETOED

Requires the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) to adopt rules to annually update groundwater modeling for active management areas to account for any stormwater recharge to the groundwater basin created through the development of new or existing infrastructure. The Director of ADWR must assume that the stormwater recharge generated by the infrastructure development will offset a portion of future groundwater use.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2270 weakens rural groundwater protections and that she will not consider rural groundwater legislation outside the context of ongoing negotiations for an alternative framework for rural groundwater management.

supply and demand; assessment; groundwater ([H.B. 2271](#)) – VETOED

Requires the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources to include prescribed metrics in each five-year supply and demand assessment for each groundwater basin.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2271 would not make a difference in solving the water policy challenges that Arizona residents and communities are facing today.

~~technical correction; assured water supply~~ (NOW: water improvement district; Willcox basin) ([H.B. 2274](#)) – VETOED

Requires the Cochise County Board of Supervisors (BOS), by July 2, 2026, to place on an open meeting agenda the issue of whether to establish a water improvements program. By July 2, 2026, the Cochise County BOS may vote on: 1) whether to establish a water improvements program and, if established, the program parameters; and 2) whether to place a question on the 2026 general election ballot for Cochise County residents who reside within the Willcox Groundwater Basin on whether to establish a domestic water improvement district (DWID). If a majority of the qualified electors approve the formation of a DWID, the DWID is established and the Cochise County BOS serves as the DWID's board of directors. Outlines election procedures and administrative requirements.

A DWID established in the Willcox Groundwater Basin may: 1) provide for the delivery of drinking water for domestic uses; and 2) provide for the construction of active or passive stormwater infrastructure to increase groundwater recharge in the Willcox Groundwater Basin.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2274 fails to address the water policy challenges Arizona residents and communities are facing today and that she will not consider rural groundwater legislation outside the context of ongoing negotiations for an alternative framework for rural groundwater management.

corporation commission; electricity; reliability; management (H.B. 2527) – VETOED

Prohibits the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) from authorizing or approving the retirement of an electric generation facility (facility) as presented in a rate case, integrated resource plan or other submission unless there is a new facility with equal or greater power generation that is presently available on the grid. Outlines facility replacement requirements for the ACC, including requirements to: 1) consider imminent and planned firm power closures when assessing replacement power; 2) prioritize new facilities from dispatchable sources; and 3) project to increase dispatchable electricity by at least five percent between 2025 and 2030.

If federal regulations require costly upgrades or other requirements that lead to the closure of an existing firm power plant, the state and the ACC must seek a waiver until there is a replacement firm power plant available to the electric grid. If a waiver is not granted, the state and the ACC must seek an injunction or other cause of action to cease implementation of the regulations until a replacement firm power plant is available. A facility must inform the ACC if the facility receives notice of an external regulatory action that would make the continued operation economically infeasible or cause involuntary retirement or decommissioning. On receipt of a notice, the ACC must open an investigatory docket to determine how an involuntary retirement or the decommissioning of the facility would impact the reliability and affordability of energy resources and recommend any necessary action to defend the facility.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2527 seeks to limit new renewable energy projects that directly threaten Arizona's energy workforce growth and the associated potential for lowered energy bills, while also putting grid reliability at risk.

grandfathered right; Willcox AMA; extension (H.B. 2551) – VETOED

Retroactive to January 8, 2025, and until January 1, 2027, extends the time period, from within 15 months to within 21 months after the date of the designation of the Willcox Active Management Area (AMA), during which a person claiming the right to withdraw or receive and use groundwater in the Willcox AMA pursuant to a grandfathered right must apply for a certificate of grandfathered right with the Arizona Department of Water Resources.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2551 would not make a difference in solving the water policy challenges that Arizona residents and communities are facing today.

temporary non-expansion area (H.B. 2570) – VETOED

Establishes a process to designate a temporary non-expansion area (TNA) in any location that is not included in an active management area (AMA) or irrigation non-expansion area (INA). The designation process may be initiated by petition to the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) as prescribed. After receiving a completed petition, the Director of ADWR must: 1) transmit the petition and other specified materials and information to the county recorder to aid in the determination of which registered voters are residents of the groundwater basin or subbasin; and 2) hold a public meeting to describe the boundaries and effects of the

proposed TNA. On completion of the public meeting, ADWR must direct each county recorder to provide notice to the applicable county boards of supervisors to call an election on the question of designating the TNA. If a majority of voters approve formation of the TNA, the TNA is established. Outlines petition, public hearing and election procedures and administrative requirements.

Prescribes a 10-year moratorium period, authorizes withdrawal amounts, outlines reporting requirements and prohibits ADWR from issuing a drilling card that authorizes the drilling of a well in a TNA, with certain exceptions. Each person who withdraws more than 10 acre-feet of groundwater per year from a non-exempt well must use a water measuring device approved by the Director of ADWR.

At least one year after the initial 10-year moratorium period or any subsequent moratorium period, the Director of ADWR must conduct a hydrological analysis of the groundwater basin or subbasin that includes an estimate of any change in groundwater levels in the area. At least 60 days before the completion of the 10-year moratorium period and after the completion of the hydrological analysis, the Director of ADWR may continue the TNA or allow the TNA designation to lapse.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2570 fails to address the water policy challenges Arizona residents and communities are facing today and that she will not consider rural groundwater legislation outside the context of ongoing negotiations for an alternative framework for rural groundwater management.

~~technical correction; groundwater rights; AMAs (NOW: subsequent AMAs; groundwater rights; adequacy) (H.B. 2572)~~ – VETOED

Allows a person who owns acres of land within a subsequent active management area (AMA) that are described on an irrigation grandfathered right (IGFR) and that have not been retired from irrigation for a non-irrigation use to apply to the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) to: 1) add acres of land within the same groundwater basin or subbasin to the person's IGFR; or 2) retire all or a portion of the acres from irrigation and substitute the retired acres for other acres within the same groundwater basin or subbasin. The owner or lessee of additional acres added to an IGFR may use groundwater to irrigate the additional acres, but the maximum amount of groundwater that a person may use may not exceed the maximum amount of groundwater determined for the original certificated acres. Any person who retires acres from irrigation must relinquish the IGFR for the retired acres. The owner of more than one IGFR in a subsequent AMA may apply to the Director of ADWR to combine multiple IGFRs in the same groundwater basin or subbasin that are farmed by the same owner or by any person entitled to use groundwater pursuant to the person's IGFR.

Requires the members of a groundwater users advisory council (GUAC) in a subsequent AMA to be groundwater users in the subsequent AMA, Arizona residents and appointed by a unanimous vote of the applicable county board of supervisors. In consultation with the Director of ADWR, a GUAC must establish a management goal for the subsequent AMA within 30 days after designation of the subsequent AMA and a management plan within two years after designation of the subsequent AMA. The management goal of the subsequent AMA may not be safe yield if the subsequent AMA is located in a basin or subbasin with no feasible alternative water supply.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2572 does not move towards solving the water policy challenges that Arizona residents and communities are facing today and that she will not consider rural groundwater legislation outside the context of ongoing negotiations for an alternative framework for rural groundwater management.

~~technical correction; plants; containers; non-irrigation~~ (NOW: groundwater; plants; wine grapes; non-irrigation) ([H.B. 2573](#)) – VETOED

Expands the classification of non-irrigation uses of groundwater in an active management area (AMA) to include watering plants grown using hydroponics and wine grapes. A person who holds a certificate of irrigation grandfathered rights (IGFR) in an initial AMA may withdraw groundwater and use it to water plants grown hydroponically on or above the surface of the certificated acres or to water wine grapes grown on the certificated acres if the plants are grown for sale or human consumption or for use as feed for livestock, range livestock or poultry.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2573 would not make a difference in solving the water policy challenges that Arizona residents and communities are facing today.

~~small land subdivision; requirements~~ ([H.B. 2574](#)) – VETOED

[SEE THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.](#)

~~technical correction; certificate; environmental compatibility~~ (NOW: small modular reactors; co-location) ([H.B. 2774](#)) – VETOED

Allows an electric utility in a county with a population of fewer than 500,000 persons, after providing 30 days written notice to the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC), to construct a new small modular nuclear reactor without filing an application or receiving a certificate of environmental compatibility, if the small modular nuclear reactor is co-located with a large industrial energy user and complies with applicable federal, state and local laws and requirements.

Allows an electric utility, after providing 30 days written notice to the ACC, to replace an existing thermal electric generating unit with a replacement small modular nuclear reactor or construct a new small modular nuclear reactor without seeking a new certificate of environmental compatibility or holding a public hearing, if the new or replacement small modular nuclear reactor is located on or immediately adjacent to the site of a plant that previously received a certificate of environmental compatibility or that was in use or authorized before August 13, 1971.

A statutorily authorized ordinance, except in a county with a population of 500,000 persons or more, may not prevent, restrict or otherwise regulate the use or occupation of land or improvements for the construction and operation of a small modular nuclear reactor, if the small modular nuclear reactor is co-located with a large industrial energy user that received all applicable zoning entitlements. The ACC must adopt rules and definitions to implement the small modular nuclear reactor requirements.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2774 provides broad exemptions for a technology that has yet to be commercially operationalized anywhere in the United States.

utility; resource plan; commission review ([H.B. 2788](#)) – VETOED

Requires the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) to require an electric public service corporation to prepare and submit an integrated resource plan (plan) that includes outlined information and analyses to the ACC for review and approval at least once every three years. Before approval or denial of a public service corporation's plan, the ACC must obtain and review an evaluation that is conducted by an independent third party and that meets outlined requirements.

An ACC-approved plan must serve as evidence of all relevant conditions known, or in reasonable judgment could have been known, by an electric public service corporation during the three-year period between plans, except as prescribed. A public service corporation or parent company, holding company or affiliate of the public service corporation may not adopt or enforce any policy, program or system for employee or independent contractor compensation that measures an employee's or independent contractors' performance or compensation based on achieving a goal, objective, unit of measure or metric that conflicts with the public service corporation's obligation or ability to serve the public.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that, while the current review process may benefit from updates, adjustments to the process should not bar updates that work against building an energy economy of the future.

Public Safety Committee

Senator Kevin Payne, Chairperson



Kiyahna Araza, Research Analyst
Nick Gustoff, Assistant Research Analyst
Anna Grothe, Intern

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

internal investigations; notice; confidentiality (S.B. 1060) – Chapter 14

Requires an employer to provide relevant and readily available materials to a law enforcement officer at least 24 hours before an investigative interview, unless: 1) the officer waives the requirement; 2) the employer determines that the interview should be conducted earlier to protect the integrity of the officer's statement; or 3) circumstances or evidence that will be offered at the interview require the interview to be completed 24 hours after a major law enforcement incident.

railroad grade crossing; on-track equipment (S.B. 1074) – Chapter 178

Incorporates *other on-track equipment* in the rules and requirements prescribed for railway trains for the purpose of railroad grade crossings, required stops and moving heavy equipment.

manufacturer plates; proof of contract (S.B. 1078) – Chapter 4

Allows a person to use a manufacturer-owned vehicle for personal transportation if evidence of a contract and designation between the person and the manufacturer is present inside the vehicle.

police reports; victims; prosecuting agency (S.B. 1104) – Chapter 37

Requires a law enforcement agency to notify a victim of the victim's right to receive one free copy of the police report and video recording from the law enforcement agency or the charging prosecutorial agency.

motorcycle safety fund continuation (S.B. 1107) – Chapter 136

Retroactive to June 30, 2025, continues the deposit of \$1 of each motorcycle registration fee into the Motorcycle Safety Fund (Fund) by removing the July 1, 2025, termination date. Any fee, assessment or other levy deposited in the Fund must be held in trust. Fund monies may only be used for prescribed purposes and may not be appropriated or transferred by the Legislature to meet the general operations of the state or obligations of the state General Fund.

jail facilities excise tax; extension (S.B. 1144) – Chapter 155

Directs the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors to call for an election to extend a jail facilities excise tax by resolution. If approved by the voters before January 1, 2028, Maricopa County must: 1) levy the tax at a rate of up to one-fifth of a cent for up to 20 years beginning in the month following the expiration of the previous tax; and 2) maintain its support of adult and juvenile jail facilities as prescribed. The Maricopa County Treasurer may only disburse tax revenues to construct, renovate, maintain and operate adult and juvenile jail facilities and for programs designed to reduce facility expenses.

sheriffs; constables; service; mileage; fees (S.B. 1161) – Chapter 254 RFE

Beginning July 1, 2025, and subject to the requirements for enactment (Proposition 108), which requires the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members of each house of the Legislature, increases the cap on the fee for a writ issued on behalf of a justice of the peace from \$5 to \$10. Requires the calculation of a constable's mileage to start at the office of the justice of the peace in the precinct where the constable serves, rather than the office originating the civil action.

victims' rights; audio recordings; appeal (S.B. 1220) – Chapter 65

Adds one free copy of any audio recordings to the information that must be provided to the victim of a crime. If a victim is denied access to a public record in the course of a criminal case in superior court, the victim may appeal through a special action within the criminal case.

~~newly elected constables; training~~ (NOW: training; newly elected constables) (S.B. 1231) – Chapter 39

Allows a constable to request training from the Constable Ethics Standards and Training Board (Board). If approved by the Board, the training must be paid for with Board monies and provided by a constable selected by the Board who has completed the mandatory basic training.

advanced air mobility infrastructure (S.B. 1307) – Chapter 185

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

west valley charity specialty plates (S.B. 1311) – Chapter 9

Requires the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to issue a west valley charity special plate if a \$32,000 implementation fee is paid to ADOT by December 31, 2025. Requires \$17 of the \$25 special plate fee collected from each special plate to be deposited into the West Valley Charity Special Plate Fund (Fund) and the first \$32,000 collected must be reimbursed to the person who paid the implementation fee. Asserts that \$8 of the \$25 special plate fee is an administration fee that ADOT must deposit in the State Highway Fund. The Director of ADOT must annually allocate Fund monies to a qualifying 501(c)(3) organization, as prescribed.

implements of husbandry; autonomous; automated (S.B. 1320) – Chapter 19

Expands the definition of an *implement of husbandry* to: 1) include an implement or vehicle that is autonomous or uses an automated driving system, whether operated manually or equipped with a system that is or is not in use; and 2) add *specialty crops* to the agricultural purposes for which an implement of husbandry must be solely used.

driver licenses; reciprocity; foreign military (S.B. 1332) – Chapter 158

[SEE THE MILITARY AFFAIRS & BORDER SECURITY COMMITTEE.](#)

physical therapists; disability placards (S.B. 1346) – Chapter 159

Adds a physical therapist to the list of healthcare professionals who may certify that an applicant for a permanent or temporary disability removable windshield placard or international symbol of access special plate has a physical disability.

~~commercial motor vehicles; civil penalties~~ (NOW: civil penalties; commercial motor vehicles) (S.B. 1370) – Chapter 101

Decreases penalties from: 1) a class 1 misdemeanor to a civil penalty of \$750, for violating an envelope permit; 2) a class 2 misdemeanor to a civil penalty of \$500, for violating federal registration requirements for motor carriers; and 3) a class 3 misdemeanor to a civil penalty of \$250, for violating commercial vehicle and load weighing requirements.

An operator of a vehicle, or a combination of vehicles, that is at least 40 feet long or at least 10 feet wide may deviate from a lane to the extent necessary to make a right or left turn.

Conforms statutory definitions and reconciles related requirements to a uniform definition of *commercial motor vehicle*, which is a motor vehicle or combination of vehicles used in commerce, including a vehicle that has either: 1) a *gross combined weight rating* or gross weight of 26,001 or more pounds inclusive of a towed unit with a *gross vehicle weight rating* or gross weight of more than 10,000 pounds, whichever is greater; or 2) a *gross vehicle weight rating* or gross weight of 26,001 or more pounds, whichever is greater.

mental health transition program; extension (S.B. 1405) – Chapter 229

Renames the *Mental Health Transition Pilot Program* as the *Mental Health Transition Program* and extends the Mental Health Transition Program for three years, until July 1, 2029.

law enforcement officers; probation; termination (S.B. 1461) – Chapter 70

Allows an employer to terminate a law enforcement officer: 1) at any time with just cause; or 2) for failing to satisfactorily complete the initial probationary period if the officer is promoted from police recruit or is laterally transferred. A law enforcement officer who is promoted above the officer's current rank and placed on probationary status may not be terminated, but may be demoted for failing to satisfactorily complete the probationary period.

A police recruit who is promoted to law enforcement officer after graduating from a police academy is exempt from statutory requirements relating to officer investigations, probation and termination.

department of corrections; reporting; website (S.B. 1506) – Chapter 10

Allows the Director of the Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR) to post on ADCRR's website the information from all statutorily required reports, forms, plans and summaries. The information must be treated as if submitted to the relevant entity and the Director of ADCRR must notify all relevant entities that the information has been posted.

~~independent corrections ombudsman; auditor general~~ (NOW: corrections; reports; oversight office) (S.B. 1507) – Chapter 258

[SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.](#)

off-highway vehicles; weight (S.B. 1517) – Chapter 221

Retroactive to June 1, 2025, extends the Arizona Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Study Committee for two years, until June 1, 2027.

Allows a 30-day temporary general use registration to be issued to, and waives the one registration per year limit for, a nonresident who owns an OHV that is titled in another state and otherwise meets the requirements to operate an OHV in Arizona.

security guards; private investigators; licensure (S.B. 1618) – Chapter 12

Removes the prohibition against renewing a private investigator or security guard license or certificate more than 90 days after expiration and extends, from two years to four years, the licensure or registration period for: 1) a private investigator business or security guard service; and 2) a private investigator's employee, security guard, armed security guard, security guard training instructor or firearms safety training instructor. The Department of Public Safety may conduct periodic criminal history checks, rather than state criminal history checks, to ensure the continued qualification of such licensees and registrants.

youth charity special plates (S.B. 1624) – Chapter 189

Requires the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to issue a youth charity special plate if a \$32,000 implementation fee is paid to ADOT by December 31, 2025. Requires \$17 of the \$25 special plate fee collected from each special plate to be deposited in the Youth Charity Special Plate Fund (Fund) and the first \$32,000 collected must be reimbursed to the person who paid the implementation fee. Asserts that \$8 of the \$25 special plate fee is an administration fee that ADOT must deposit in the State Highway Fund. The Director of ADOT must annually allocate Fund monies to a qualifying 501(c)(3) organization, as prescribed.

vision zero; transportation planning (S.C.M. 1002)

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

prohibit tax; monitoring; vehicle mileage (S.C.R. 1004/H.C.R. 2035)

[SEE THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.](#)

vehicle license tax; exemption; military (H.B. 2009) – Chapter 78

Exempts U.S. Armed Forces members who have valid orders and are within 30 days of deployment from the requirement to pay the vehicle license tax and registration fees for a motor vehicle registration or registration renewal. Retroactive to March 25, 2025, a person may apply for a refund of past payments that would have qualified for the exemption, rather than applying the qualifying payment to the next registration period for the motor vehicle.

~~minerals; land inventory; technical correction~~ (NOW: emissions; voluntary vehicle repair; timeline) (H.B. 2104) – Chapter 122

[SEE THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.](#)

~~suicide prevention special plate~~ (NOW: license plates; special) (H.B. 2111) – Chapter 123

Requires the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to issue special plates for 988 suicide awareness, America250, Arizona bicycling, education fundraising, the Hopi Tribe, Italian Americans, kidney disease awareness, made in Arizona, public safety personnel mental health, sororities and fraternities and a youth charities organization if an implementation fee of \$32,000 per special plate is paid to ADOT by December 31, 2025. The person who pays the implementation fee must design the corresponding special plate, with certain exceptions. Establishes a separate fund for each special plate and prescribes fund administration and allocation requirements.

The Director of ADOT may combine requests for: 1) a special plate and a personalized special plate; or 2) a made in Arizona special plate and an alternative fuel vehicle sticker, submitted as prescribed and subject to applicable fees. Requires \$17 of the \$25 special plate fee collected from each special plate to be deposited in the corresponding special plate fund or, for Hopi Tribe special plate donations, to the Hopi Tribal Department of Public Safety and Emergency Services to be used for road maintenance services and specified traffic control devices and requires the first \$32,000 collected to be reimbursed to the person or entity that paid the corresponding implementation fee. Asserts that \$8 of the \$25 special plate fee is an administration fee that ADOT must deposit in the State Highway Fund.

~~commercial driver license examiners; notice~~ (NOW: use fuel dispenser labels; receipt) (H.B. 2166) – Chapter 51

Requires the Arizona Department of Transportation to provide use fuel dispenser labels to a vendor that submits a receipt from one fueling position for each use fuel type and, if applicable, one in-store point of sale system.

missing indigenous person; alert system (H.B. 2281) – Chapter 199

Establishes *Emily's Law* which requires the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to institute a Turquoise Alert System to issue and coordinate alerts following the report of a missing person, including a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe who is under 65 years old. DPS must request an activation of the federal Emergency Alert System and issue a turquoise alert if: 1) DPS has been designated to use the federal Emergency Alert System for turquoise alerts; 2) there is information that could assist in recovering the missing person if provided to the public; and 3) the investigating law enforcement agency has used all available local resources, determined that the person has gone missing under unexplained or suspicious circumstances and believes that the person is in danger.

total loss vehicle; electronic signatures (H.B. 2303) – Chapter 200

Allows an agent, including a motor vehicle dealer or authorized third party, to execute a power of attorney (POA) involving a total loss vehicle settlement without notarization if the POA is submitted electronically to the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) in an approved manner. A POA may be signed electronically and printed on hard copy using a commercial product that employs the National Institute of Standards and Technology's identity assurance level 2 or higher authorization without biometrics.

Determines that a repossession affidavit by the lienholder of record in Arizona or another state is proof of ownership, right of possession and right of transfer of ownership when a vehicle reverts to the lienholder of record through repossession.

~~disability; voluntary disclosure; licenses~~ (NOW: voluntary disclosure; disability; licenses) (H.B. 2330) – Chapter 146

Allows a person to request the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to make a note in ADOT's: 1) customer record that the person may need a communication accommodation; or 2) vehicle record that there may be a vehicle occupant who may need a communication accommodation. ADOT must determine a method for making requests and establish procedures to make the notations available only to law enforcement agencies.

pay parity; law enforcement; benchmarks (H.B. 2386) – Chapter 225

Requires the Department of Public Safety (DPS), in determining expenditures from the Parity Compensation Fund (Fund), to annually establish and consider benchmarks based on average total compensation for each comparable law enforcement personnel rank of DPS's three largest county or municipal peer law enforcement agencies. DPS may only spend Fund monies on salaries and benefits for law enforcement personnel that DPS determines will enhance its ability to successfully recruit and retain qualified personnel. Includes the most recent benchmarks in the Arizona Department of Administration's annual state personnel system report.

silent witness; records; nondisclosure; exceptions (NOW: silent witness; nondisclosure; records; exceptions) ([H.B. 2388](#)) – Chapter 124

Prohibits the disclosure of information that may be used to identify an individual submitting a criminal activity tip if the person submits the tip anonymously. A prosecutor must make reasonable efforts to ensure information that may be used to identify an individual who submitted an anonymous tip is not disclosed in a criminal case, unless the disclosure is required by a constitutional, legal or ethical duty. Any portion of any record maintained by a silent witness, crime stopper or operation game thief program or organization (program or organization) that might be used to identify an individual who submitted an anonymous tip is not subject to compulsory production, except on a properly filed motion that establishes good cause for disclosure. Outlines procedures to obtain the information once a motion is granted and asserts that the prescribed nondisclosure requirements and exceptions do not expand the scope of discovery available under Arizona court rules. A program or organization must retain written tip materials until for at least one year, as outlined.

parenting time; neutral exchange location ([H.B. 2432](#)) – Chapter 82

Allows a court to order the custody of a minor child to be exchanged at a safe exchange location that is specified in the parenting plan, including a location approved by the court or agreed to by the parties or a designated neutral safe exchange location.

Each county sheriff must maintain a list of neutral safe exchange locations within that county on the office's website. A county sheriff's office or city or town police department may designate two or more parking spots as a neutral safe exchange location. Each parking lot designated as a neutral safe exchange location must be accessible at all times and have: 1) a purple light or a sign clearly identifying the area; 2) adequate lighting; 3) an external video surveillance system that continuously records and retains videos for 45 days; and 4) at least one camera that is fixed in or near the location that captures images which clearly display the time and date and that are retained for 45 days.

Immunizes each county, city, town, sheriff, law enforcement officer and employee of a designated neutral safe exchange location from liability for civil damages for any act or omission relating to an incident arising out of the exchange of a child at the location.

tracking system; sexual assault kits ([H.B. 2581](#)) – Chapter 205

Requires the Department of Public Safety to establish a Sexual Assault Kit Evidence Tracking System (System) that: 1) tracks the location and status of each sexual assault kit at specified stages; 2) allows an authorized entity to update and track the status and location of the sexual assault kits; and 3) allows a victim to anonymously track and receive updates on the status and location of the victim's sexual assault kit evidence, with advance notification of the sexual assault kit's destruction. Sexual assault kit evidence records entered into the System are confidential, except as specified.

fingerprinting; personnel; committed youth; contact. ([H.B. 2730](#)) – Chapter 210

Requires the following individuals who have unsupervised direct contact with committed youth inside a secure care facility under the jurisdiction of the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) to be fingerprinted and undergo a criminal history records check: 1) each ADJC employee; 2) any licensee or service contract provider and any employee of a licensee or service contract provider; and 3) each volunteer. A licensee or service contract provider, an employee of a licensee or service contract provider and any volunteer or visitor who has supervised contact with committed youth inside a secure care facility is only subject to a criminal history records check. An employee of a licensee or service contract provider who has direct contact with committed youth outside of a secure care facility must submit a prescribed disclosure form and have a valid fingerprint clearance card. Requires each person to certify on the disclosure form whether the person has attempted specified criminal offenses and removes the requirement for the form to be notarized.

Prohibits ADJC from allowing a person who is awaiting trial for, or who has committed, attempted or been convicted of, certain felony offenses to have supervised or unsupervised contact with committed youth. The Director of ADJC may find certain persons, including a visitor or volunteer, who are convicted of specified criminal offenses to be successfully rehabilitated and may authorize supervised, rather than direct, contact with committed youth.

fire trucks; diesel fuel; exemption ([H.B. 2750](#)) – Chapter 151

Allows dyed diesel fuel to be used in a fire truck, fire engine or other fire apparatus when transporting fire fighters on state highways outside of areas A, B and C, if the vehicle is exempt from the federal diesel fuel excise tax.

identification driver licenses; Native American ([H.B. 2852](#)) – Chapter 125

Beginning January 1, 2026, requires the Arizona Department of Transportation to allow a distinguishing mark to appear on a nonoperating identification or driver license that identifies the licensee as a Native American if the applicant elects to submit documentation that satisfactorily proves that the applicant is an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe located in Arizona. The distinguishing mark may not identify a specific Indian tribe or other specific personal information contained in the submitted documentation.

unauthorized encampments; higher education institutions ([H.B. 2880](#)) – Chapter 152

Prohibits an individual from establishing or occupying an encampment on a university or community college campus either overnight or for a prolonged period. If an individual or group of individuals violates the prohibition, the university or community college administrator must: 1) direct the individual or group to immediately dismantle the encampment and vacate the campus; 2) warn the individual or group that failing to comply is criminal trespass; 3) initiate legal action to have an individual or group who fails to comply with the direction to leave removed from the

campus; and 4) initiate disciplinary action against any student who fails to comply with the direction to leave. A law enforcement agency, peace officer or member of campus security may remove an encampment and any noncompliant individual or group from the campus.

An individual who establishes or occupies an encampment is: 1) not lawfully present on campus for purposes relating to free speech; and 2) liable for all damages caused by the individual.

alternative fuel vehicles; HOV lanes ([H.B. 2887](#)) – Chapter 213

Allows, rather than requires, the owner of a motor vehicle that uses an alternative fuel as the vehicle's only fuel source to apply for an alternative fuel vehicle (AFV) special plate. An AFV owner who does not apply for an AFV special plate may apply for a license plate or a special plate and an AFV sticker, subject to an \$8 sticker fee that the Arizona Department of Transportation must deposit into the State Highway Fund.

~~silver alert; criteria; notification~~ (NOW: safe alert; notifications; criteria) ([H.B. 2894](#)) – Chapter 175

Renames the *Silver Alert Notification System* as the *Seek and Find Alert Notification System* (System) and expands the System to include a missing person who has a cognitive disability. A seek and find alert must be issued immediately, regardless of the missing person's age and the alert may not be denied or delayed due to administrative processes, prior missing episodes or discretionary assessments that are unrelated to the immediate risk to the missing person's safety.

All law enforcement agencies (LEAs) must develop, implement and regularly update System training criteria and conduct the prescribed time-of-hire and biannual alert notification training for LEA employees who have direct involvement in missing person cases.

Jimmie Preston; memorial bridge ([H.C.M. 2006](#))

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

law enforcement; first responders; honoring ([H.C.R. 2045](#))

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

LEGISLATION VETOED

photo enforcement systems; prohibition (S.B. 1019) – VETOED

Prohibits a local authority or state agency from using a photo enforcement system to identify violators of state traffic laws or city or town traffic ordinances.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1019 attempts to remove the ability of local law enforcement to keep the streets safe by eliminating a tool that enhances roadway safety.

critical telecommunications infrastructure; construction requirements (S.B. 1027) – VETOED

Beginning January 1, 2026, establishes the *Secure Telecommunications Act of 2025*. Critical telecommunications infrastructure that is located within, or serving, the state: 1) may not be constructed with equipment manufactured in or by the People's Republic of China; and 2) must have all prohibited equipment removed and replaced. Telecommunications providers (providers) are exempt from any additional permitting if proper notice is given and the replacement is similar to the existing equipment. Each provider must annually certify to the Arizona Corporation Commission that all critical telecommunications infrastructure and equipment within the provider's operation do not use or provide a prohibited equipment or service. Prescribes penalties for violating the prohibition.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1027 is not a realistic way to protect critical infrastructure and the broad language would create difficulty for the business community and costs to taxpayers.

transportation system performance; ADOT (S.B. 1086) – VETOED

Requires the Transportation Planning Division (Division) of the Arizona Department of Transportation to develop methods to quantitatively measure each transportation system performance factor, consider prescribed solutions to enhance performance-factor delivery and use specific performance factor weights. The Division may not apply performance factors in a manner that promotes differential treatment based on race, color or ethnicity or consider or adopt a travel mile reduction target or any other demand-management policy or project. Modifies the performance factor variables to add mobility and include congestion reduction, rather than congestion relief, and safety improvements, rather than safety.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1086 would not keep roads safe.

ADOT; report; construction projects; bidders (S.B. 1089) – VETOED

Requires the Director of the Arizona Department of Transportation to issue a quarterly report to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives disclosing each instance, and reason why, the lowest responsible bidder was not selected for a construction contract.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1089 is detrimental, ineffective, nonsensical and objectionable.

firearms transactions; merchant codes; prohibition ([S.B. 1143](#)) – VETOED

Establishes the *Second Amendment Financial Privacy Act* (Act) to prohibit: 1) a government entity from keeping a list, record or registry of privately owned firearms or firearm owners, with exceptions; and 2) a person and covered entity from assigning a merchant category code (MCC), and a payment card network from requiring or incentivizing the use of an MCC, to distinguish a firearm retailer from other retailers.

The Attorney General or a county attorney has the exclusive authority to enforce the Act, as prescribed. The court must grant injunctions and attorney fees and costs, assess civil penalties by considering factors resulting from the violation and impose a civil penalty, which must be stayed pending appeal. The prescribed remedies are the exclusive remedies for any violation of the Act and it is a defense to a proceeding that an MCC was required by law.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that MCCs help law enforcement identify perpetrators of illegal activity, including mass shootings, and that S.B. 1143 would make it harder for law enforcement to catch violent criminals.

law enforcement; defunding; prohibition ([H.B. 2221](#)) – VETOED

[SEE THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.](#)

Regulatory Affairs & Government Efficiency Committee

Senator Shawanna Bolick, Chairperson



Jason Theodorou, Research Analyst
Kati Pratt, Assistant Research Analyst
Jenn Ramirez-Mendoza, Intern

REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

engineers; alterations; commercial space ([S.B. 1051](#)) – Chapter 153

Allows a nonregistrant to exceed the 3,000 square foot statutory limit to design an interior nonstructural alteration of an individual unit of a commercial space that is 3,000 square feet or less, except assembly occupancy as defined in the adopted building code.

liquefied petroleum gas containers; penalties. ([S.B. 1056](#)) – Chapter 177

Increases, from a class 3 misdemeanor to a class 2 misdemeanor, the penalty for the unauthorized filling, evacuating or defacing of a liquefied petroleum gas container.

employment practices; wage claims ([S.B. 1159](#)) – Chapter 38

Increases, from \$5,000 to \$12,000, the maximum amount of unpaid wages for which an employee may file a claim against an employer with the Labor Department of the Industrial Commission of Arizona.

~~landlords; property manager; contact information.~~ (NOW: municipalities; counties; construction hours) ([S.B. 1182](#)) – Chapter 181 E

An emergency measure effective May 13, 2025, that precludes a municipality or county from enacting or enforcing any noise ordinance, rule or regulation that prohibits general construction activities between May 1 and October 15 of each year between: 1) 5:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. each business day; and 2) 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, if the construction work is being performed pursuant to a validly issued building permit. A municipality or county must allow concrete to be poured at least one hour before the time that general construction activities are regularly scheduled to begin.

litigation; financing; consumer protection; enforcement ([S.B. 1215](#)) – Chapter 226

[SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.](#)

China; public funds; divestment ([S.B. 1221](#)) – Chapter 156

[SEE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.](#)

counties; board; administrative review; approval (S.B. 1286) – Chapter 8

Allows a county board of supervisors (county BOS), by ordinance, to authorize administrative personnel to review and approve assurances without a public hearing. As an alternative to the county BOS, a county employee who is authorized by an adopted county ordinance may review and approve subdivision plats.

advanced air mobility infrastructure (S.B. 1307) – Chapter 185

Requires, beginning September 1, 2026, the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to: 1) through consultation with specified stakeholders, develop a statewide plan or update the Statewide Aviation Plan to include public vertiports, electric aircraft charging stations and advanced air mobility infrastructure needs; and 2) designate a person within ADOT who has expertise in advanced air mobility to be a resource for local and regional jurisdictions developing or implementing advanced air mobility. The ADOT-designated person must establish working relationships with the relevant stakeholders. A political subdivision may establish the location of public and private vertiports, electric aircraft charging stations and advanced air mobility infrastructure needs in compliance with federal law. The advanced air mobility infrastructure requirements only apply to advanced air mobility aircraft that have: 1) a gross takeoff weight of 300 pounds or more; and 2) the capability of carrying passengers or cargo. The Arizona Commerce Authority must provide educational materials to local and regional jurisdictions on the benefits of electric-powered lift aircrafts and advanced air mobility.

state fire marshal; phased permitting (S.B. 1348) – Chapter 99

Requires the State Forester to adopt rules to implement a one-phase and two-phase construction, remodeling, alteration or addition permit. For a one-phase permit application: 1) the State Forester must make a final determination to approve or deny the permit application within 60 days after receiving a valid application; and 2) construction may not commence until the plans have been approved and a permit has been issued, unless the State Forester has not acted on the application within 60 days. For a two-phase permit application: 1) the State Forester must review the plans and specification, make an initial determination to approve or deny the permit within 30 days after receiving a valid application and make a final determination to approve or deny the permit application within 60 days after a valid submission; and 2) construction may not commence beyond the constraints on phase one until the plans have been approved and a permit has been issued, unless the State Forester has not acted on phase two of a permit application within 60 days.

Authorizes a city or town to allow all plans and specifications for new construction, remodeling, alterations and additions for municipal or private buildings and grounds to be submitted to the city or town for review and approval by a person knowledgeable of the State Fire Code. If the city or town adopts a process to approve construction permits, all plans and specifications must be reviewed and approved or disapproved within 60 days after submission. Construction may not commence until the plans and specifications have been approved and a permit has been issued.

Removes the requirement that a person must have five years of experience in fire safety to be hired as a deputy fire marshal with the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

municipal development; permits; review (S.B. 1353) – Chapter 187

Allows any required review of an application for a single-family residential building permit to be performed by a qualified third party, if a municipality with a population of 30,000 persons or more does not approve, conditionally approve or respond with required additions or revisions to the application within 15 working days. The time frame for a third-party review does not begin until the municipality has approved the applicant's dwelling construction documents and vertical construction activities. A qualified third party must: 1) review the application and take related actions in accordance with all requirements adopted by the municipality; and 2) notify the municipality and applicant of the results of the review. The applicant may appeal a municipality's decision to approve, conditionally approve or deny a single-family residential building permit application. An applicant is responsible for any fees and costs associated with a third-party review. A municipality that issues a permit, approval or certificate of occupancy after a third-party review is immune from actions against public entities and public employees as statutorily prescribed.

In establishing licensing time frames, a municipality must consider the third-party review time frames for a single-family residential building permit application. Within 10 working days, a municipality must meet or discuss an applicant's request for corrections and provide sufficient information and instruction for corrections. Except for an application submitted under the planning and zoning statutes, a municipality may not deny a residential license application that is necessary for land development or building construction unless the municipality considers the application withdrawn or has notified the applicant and property owner within 15 working days that the application may be subject to denial because of excessive substantive deficiencies.

Modifies the requirements for a municipality to refund or excuse fees for reviewing and acting on a license application. Outlines circumstances when a municipality may modify, rescind or request any subsequent modifications or revisions to an approved plan or permit for residential land development or building construction. A municipality may allow an applicant to request a hold on issuing a certificate of occupancy as a required security to assure the installation of required infrastructure and standard improvements. Eliminates the municipal licensing time frame exemption for the construction or development of a residential lot.

~~international medical graduates; requirements~~ (NOW: requirements; international medical graduates) (S.B. 1395) – Chapter 140

Requires graduates from an unapproved school of medicine who apply to the Arizona Medical Board for licensure as a physician to be enrolled in, rather than successfully complete, an additional approved 24-month hospital internship, residency or clinical fellowship program, except as otherwise prescribed.

liquor; consumption; watercraft (S.B. 1467) – Chapter 107

Removes, for the purposes of a government series liquor license, the stipulation that liquor may be sold for consumption on the licensed premises of a dock or boat only in conjunction with the consumption of food. Spirituous liquor may be served, consumed or possessed by a customer on a permitted boat between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m., rather than outside the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Redefines *boat* as any watercraft that: 1) is propelled by machinery, whether or not the machinery is the principal source of propulsion and is designed to carry and capable of carrying between 15 and 100 passengers; and 2) has a displacement of up to 50 tons and either a current coast guard certificate or any other requirement of the local governing body for operation on local nonnavigable waterways.

~~independent corrections ombudsman; auditor general~~ (NOW: corrections; reports; oversight office) ([S.B. 1507](#)) – Chapter 258

Establishes the Independent Correctional Oversight Office (Office) to monitor inmate health and safety and investigate related complaints. Requires the Governor to appoint a qualified person of sound judgment, objectivity and integrity who has experience in corrections-related law and policy and meets prescribed qualifications to serve as the Director of the Office (Director) for a five-year term. Establishes the Corrections Oversight Fund (Fund), administered by the Office, and consisting of legislative appropriations, federal monies and private grants, gifts, contributions and devises to assist the Director in carrying out the purposes of the Office. Fund monies are exempt from lapsing.

Outlines the Office's powers and duties, including: 1) monitoring confinement conditions and assessing the Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry's (ADCRR's) compliance with applicable federal and state rules, policies and best practices relating to inmate health, safety, welfare and rehabilitation; 2) providing inmate rights information to inmates, inmates' family members, inmate representatives, ADCRR employees and contractors and any other person; 3) creating a secure telephone hotline for complaints and inquiries; 4) creating online complaint forms; and 5) inspecting each correctional facility at least once every two years. The Office must have access, in person and with or without prior notice, to all facilities and any inmate, ADCRR employee, contractor or other person to conduct interviews for specified purposes. By December 31 of each year, the Office must submit a report to the Legislature regarding its operations and findings on inmate health, safety and welfare.

Allows the Office to initiate and attempt to resolve an investigation on its own initiative or after receiving a complaint regarding specified issues that may adversely affect inmate health, safety, welfare or rights. The Office may decline to investigate a complaint but must notify the complainant in writing of the decision and reason for declining. The Office may not levy any fees for submitting or investigating complaints or act as an advocate for the complainant or ADCRR. The Office's action or lack of action on a complaint is not deemed an administrative procedure required for exhaustion of remedies before bringing an action or filing a notice of claim in accordance with federal or state law. After investigating a complaint, the Office must render a public decision on the merit of each complaint and inform the complainant and ADCRR of the decision and related recommendations. If there has been or continues to be a significant inmate health, safety, welfare or rehabilitation issue, the Office must report the finding within 10 business days to the Governor, Attorney General, Legislature, Director of ADCRR and Secretary of State.

Authorizes the Office to access, inspect and copy all relevant information, records and documents in the possession or control of ADCRR that are considered necessary in the investigation of a complaint or to complete prescribed reporting requirements. All communication

between the Office and ADCRR is confidential and privileged, with certain exceptions. The Office must establish confidentiality rules and procedures for maintained information to ensure that the identity of a complainant remains confidential to the greatest extent possible. Records maintained by the Office are not public records and are exempt from public records laws. Civil action may not be brought against the Director or Office Staff for any action or omission in performing statutory duties, except for gross negligence or intentional wrongful acts or omissions.

occupational boards; renewal extension (S.B. 1527) – Chapter 110

Stipulates that, if a health profession regulatory board (health board) or licensing authority suspends the processing of renewal applications for licensure, permitting, certification or registration: 1) all current licenses, permits, certificates and registrations that were previously issued by the board or authority are extended through the suspension period; and 2) the renewal fee for current licensees, permittees, certificate holders and registrants is waived during the suspension period.

~~municipal housing; preapproved design~~ (NOW: municipal housing; preapproved design; annexation) (S.B. 1529) – Chapter 259

Requires a municipality to establish standard preapproved housing design plans or a preapproved housing design plan program. The standard preapproved housing design plans must be separated into four classifications that range in specified dimensions for single-family homes, duplexes, triplexes and accessory dwelling units and each classification must include at least three different elevation options. A preapproved housing design plan program must meet prescribed compliance requirements relating to the acceptance of design plan submittals, approval or denial of submitted design plans and posting or removal of approved design plans on the municipality's website. A municipality may require a person or entity to release and indemnify the municipality and the municipality's employees and contractors as a condition of using a standard preapproved housing design plan.

Authorizes a city or town to annex territory that will result in an unincorporated territory being surrounded by the incorporated city or town or a combination of incorporated cities and towns if the county board of supervisors for the county in which the territory is located makes a finding that the proposed annexation will not adversely impact the levels of county services to the remaining unincorporated territory.

~~homestead exemption; equity increase~~ (NOW: ancillary use; international headquarters campus) (S.B. 1543) – Chapter 74

Requires a municipality with a population between 200,000 and 500,000 persons to allow hotel use and multifamily residential housing as an allowed ancillary use on land that is vacant as of the date of the building permit application in a zoning district that allows light industrial use without requiring any type of application that will require a public hearing. The ancillary use must: 1) be located within an international headquarters campus (campus) that is solely owned by either a single entity or related entities at the time that development of the campus commences and, on

completion, the campus will employ more than 1,000 employees at an average annual compensation of more than 125 percent of the median wage of the county where the campus is located; and 2) the campus that contains the ancillary use is bound by a recorded instrument that outlines occupancy restrictions for multifamily residential housing units.

The municipality's governing body may not unreasonably withhold a building permit or unreasonably delay a building inspection or a certificate of occupancy for an ancillary use that complies with the one of the following: 1) for campuses that include multifamily residential housing units as an ancillary use, a municipality must allow a number of multifamily residential housing units within the campus that are equal to 27 units per gross acre based on the total gross acreage of the campus; or 2) for campuses that include hotel use as an ancillary use, a municipality must allow a number of hotel rooms within the campus equal to 10 hotel rooms per gross acre based on the total gross acreage of the campus and at least 10 percent of the hotel rooms must be allowed as for-sale residential units within the hotel. For campuses that include hotel use and multifamily residential housing units as an ancillary use, a municipality may allow complementary retail and restaurant use within the campus.

An ancillary use building development is subject to compliance with generally applicable municipal building and fire codes and prescribed objective standards relating to setbacks, height, parking and water and sewer capacity. A building permit for an ancillary use building development may not be obtained until the municipality issues a building permit for construction of the international headquarters building. A certificate of occupancy may not be granted for an ancillary use building development before the municipality grants a certificate of occupancy for the international headquarters building, with certain exceptions. For 10 years after the development of an allowed ancillary use, the developer must designate at least five percent of the total for-rent multifamily residential dwellings as affordable units.

workers' compensation; disability; definitions (S.B. 1551) – Chapter 73

Requires the Industrial Commission of Arizona (ICA) to fix a fee schedule for workers' compensation to be charged by providers of health care, dental care and supplies for injured employees. Contracts that are necessary to develop and publish a dental care fee schedule are exempt from the Arizona Procurement Code. The ICA must publish the fee schedule for workers' compensation on its website.

Increases, from \$25 to \$100, the monthly dependent allowance provided to an employee, in addition to workers' compensation, for a temporary total disability. Modifies the definition of *interested party* to include a third-party administrator or an authorized representative.

~~veterinary technicians; certification; education alternative (NOW: failure to treat; animal cruelty)~~ (S.B. 1658) – Chapter 232

Expands the criminal classification of *cruelty to animals* to add that a person commits cruelty to animals by intentionally, knowingly or recklessly failing to provide medical attention necessary to prevent unreasonable suffering to any domestic animal under the person's custody or control. A violation of cruelty to animals in this manner is a class 1 misdemeanor. Modifies the

definitions of *domestic animal* to include a bird, reptile or amphibian and *cruel neglect* to include failing to provide a domestic animal with access to shelter that meets specified requirements. Designates this legislation as *Jerry's Law*.

~~dental board; formal hearings~~ (NOW: dental board; hearings; hygienist supervision) ([H.B. 2026](#)) – Chapter 119

Allows the Arizona State Board of Dental Examiners (BODEX) to issue a formal complaint and order a formal hearing to be held if it is found that the information provided is sufficient to merit a license revocation or suspension. After completing a formal hearing and finding that the information provided during the investigation or review is insufficient to merit a license revocation or suspension, BODEX may take specified disciplinary or nondisciplinary actions.

Allows a dental hygienist to administer local anesthetics under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist if the hygienist successfully completes an examination in local anesthesia given by a state or regional testing agency in the United States, rather than the Western Regional Examining Board.

~~workers' compensation; assigned risk plan~~ ([H.B. 2032](#)) – Chapter 120

Excludes an employer from placement in the assigned risk plan if any of the following factors exist when the employer submits an application for the plan: 1) on a current or previous workers' compensation policy, the employer knowingly does not meet reasonable health and safety or audit or loss-prevention requirements or does not allow an insurance carrier reasonable access to the employer's records for audit or inspection purposes; 2) the employer has an outstanding premium that is due on a workers' compensation policy and is not subject to a bona fide dispute; or 3) the employer or the employer's representative knowingly fails to comply with the assigned risk plan's application procedures or knowingly makes a material misrepresentation on the application. An employer placed in the assigned risk plan in this manner may be removed from the plan subject to the statutory requirements for securing workers' compensation coverage.

~~child care facilities; program providers~~ ([H.B. 2066](#)) – Chapter 48

Exempts an out-of-school time program provider licensed as a child care facility from the requirement to keep a roster of school-age children for each room or activity area within the facility if: 1) the provider keeps a roster of school-age children who are present on entry to and exit from the facility; and 2) the school-age children are supervised by designated staff when moving their respective cohort from one activity area to another.

~~landlord tenant; assistance animals~~ (NOW: assistance animals; landlord tenant) ([H.B. 2068](#)) – Chapter 191

Immunizes a landlord from liability for injuries or damages caused by a purported assistance or service animal that is allowed as a reasonable accommodation or modification on the landlord's property or within property controlled by the landlord.

development; adaptive reuse; rezoning; prohibition ([H.B. 2110](#)) – Chapter 41 E

An emergency measure effective April 7, 2025, and retroactive to January 1, 2025, that requires, by July 6, 2025, the governing body of a municipality with a population of 150,000 persons or more (governing body) to establish objective standards to allow multifamily residential development or adaptive reuse of at least 10 percent of the existing commercial, office or mixed use parcels, rather than on up to 10 percent of existing commercial, office or mixed use buildings. To determine the minimum percentage of parcels eligible for multifamily residential development or adaptive reuse, the governing body may analyze the commercial, office and mixed use parcels every 10 years. The governing body may not: 1) designate individual parcels that are eligible for multifamily residential development or adaptive reuse; 2) exclude commercial, office or mixed use parcels from multifamily residential development or adaptive reuse other than as designated as commercial or employment hubs or otherwise excluded from the objective standards requirements; or 3) exclude commercial, office or mixed use parcels from multifamily residential development or adaptive reuse if the average sound level at the parcel is below 65 decibels. Clarifies development standards for multifamily residential development and adaptive reuse projects.

nurses; provisional licensure ([H.B. 2133](#)) – Chapter 223

Requires the Arizona State Board of Nursing (AZBN) to issue a provisional license or certificate to an advanced practice registered nurse, registered nurse or licensed practical nurse within five business days after the AZBN receives a complete application and fees if the applicant meets outlined criteria, including holding a current license in another state that is in good standing. If the applicant has a complaint or investigation pending or has had discipline imposed by any out-of-state licensing entity, the five-day timeframe does not apply and the AZBN may determine whether the applicant can safely practice nursing in Arizona.

The AZBN must acknowledge receipt of an application within five business days and provide the applicant with either: 1) a notice of provisional licensure or certification approval; or 2) a written explanation of the reason the applicant is not eligible for provisional licensure or certification. The AZBN must further investigate the application as necessary to determine whether the applicant may be licensed or certified in accordance with statute.

A provisional license or certificate is valid only in Arizona and may be: 1) converted into a regular, single-state license or certificate six months after the provisional license or certificate is issued; or 2) terminated within six months after issuance if the AZBN determines that there is a reasonable basis to restrict or terminate the provisional license or certificate. Any required fees for a license or certificate are waived for U.S. Armed Forces veterans and spouses of U.S. Armed Forces active-duty members.

registered sanitarians; qualifications ([H.B. 2145](#)) – Chapter 43

Modifies qualification requirements for registration as a sanitarian by requiring an applicant to: 1) complete three, rather than five, years of employment as a sanitarian aide in either a recognized public health agency or private industry in a position directly related to environmental

health; 2) satisfactorily complete at least three, rather than five, years of full-time military duty in the field of environmental health; or 3) successfully complete 30 semester hours of credit at an accredited college or university in subjects relevant to the role of sanitarian, including 22 hours in the natural sciences, rather than 30 semester hours of credit in the natural sciences.

long-term RVs; cooling; prohibition ([H.B. 2168](#)) – Chapter 164 E

An emergency measure effective May 12, 2025, that precludes a recreational vehicle park landlord from prohibiting a tenant from installing reasonably necessary commercial cooling methods on the tenant's motor home, park trailer or travel trailer.

digital advertising; content; children; penalty ([H.B. 2195](#)) – Chapter 198

Beginning January 1, 2027, requires a *child-directed application*, which is an application primarily intended for use or download by an individual who is 11 years old or younger, to take appropriate measures to prevent the display of inappropriate and mature advertisements on the application and outlines criteria that must be considered when determining whether an application is a child-directed application. The Attorney General must enforce the child-directed application content restriction and any child-directed application that does not comply with the restriction is subject to a civil penalty of up to \$100,000 per violation.

professional registration; reciprocity; endorsement ([H.B. 2200](#)) – Chapter 44

Establishes qualifications for registration with the Arizona Board of Technical Registration (AZBTR) as a professional engineer, architect, land surveyor or landscape architect through reciprocity or endorsement by requiring an applicant to hold: 1) a valid license, registration or certification issued by the proper authority of another state, territory, district or possession or a country participating in the applicable profession's national council mutual recognition agreement; and 2) a certification or model law designation from the applicable profession's national council. An applicant for registration as a professional engineer through reciprocity or endorsement must additionally hold a record from the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying verifying that the person meets at least one of the following in the branch of engineering in which registration is sought: 1) at least four years of experience following the person's licensure, registration or certification by the other jurisdiction; 2) passed a professional national examination; or 3) earned a baccalaureate, baccalaureate-equivalent or postgraduate degree. An applicant for registration as a land surveyor through reciprocity or endorsement must additionally pass the Arizona Land Surveying Examination.

~~cell phone carrier; spam calls~~ (NOW: blockchain technology; regulation; computational power) ([H.B. 2342](#)) – Chapter 81

Declares the regulation of the act of lawfully accessing or using computational power in a residence to be a matter of statewide concern and preempts further regulation by a city, town or county. A city, town or county may not prohibit or otherwise restrict an individual from lawfully

accessing or using computational power in a residence. *Computational power* is the use of computer hardware and software to process data, run algorithms or perform tasks requiring significant computing resources.

auditor general; records; financial institutions ([H.B. 2368](#)) – Chapter 133

Authorizes the Auditor General (OAG) or the OAG's representative, in performing official duties, to have access to financial institutions' and enterprises' information, accounts, books, records, statements, reports, communications, transactions or any other information relating to any state agency, board, commission, department, institution, program, advisory council or advisory committee or political subdivision (state entity). On request by the OAG or the OAG's representative and in the form and at the time prescribed by the OAG, a financial institution or enterprise must provide and certify all requested information. Costs and fees associated with producing the requested information must be paid by the state entity. A financial institution or enterprise is not liable to the state entity for providing the requested information to the OAG or the OAG's representative.

auditor general; county treasurer; review ([H.B. 2369](#)) – Chapter 250

Requires the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) to perform procedural reviews of county treasurers' offices, as prescribed. The OAG must provide written results of the procedural review, including any recommendations, to the county treasurer, county board of supervisors and Joint Legislative Audit Committee. A county treasurer's office must notify the OAG in writing whether it agrees or disagrees with the review findings and whether it will implement, modify or refuse the recommendations. On request by the OAG, the county treasurer must submit a written status report on correcting deficiencies and implementing recommendations within one year after receiving the results of the procedural review. Prescribes review follow-up requirements for the OAG and county treasurer.

self-certification program; administrative review ([H.B. 2447](#)) – Chapter 31

Beginning January 1, 2026, requires, rather than allows, a city or town legislative body by ordinance to allow: 1) administrative personnel to review and approve site plans, development plans, land divisions, lot line adjustments, lot ties, preliminary plats, final plats, plat amendments and design review plans based on objective standards without a public hearing; 2) at-risk submittals for certain on-site preliminary grading and drainage work or infrastructure; and 3) applicants with a history of compliance with building codes and regulations to be eligible for expedited permit review.

manufactured housing; certification; compliance ([H.B. 2626](#)) – Chapter 126

Removes the requirement for the Arizona Department of Housing to issue a certificate to indicate compliance with the statutory manufactured home installation requirements.

liquor sampling; reporting; requirements. (H.B. 2741) – Chapter 91

Prohibits the Department of Liquor Licenses and Control (DLLC) from requiring a beer and wine store or liquor store licensee that has sampling privileges (licensee) to use a singular DLLC-maintained system for maintaining required sampling records and reports. A licensee may use any reasonable means for maintaining the sampling records and reports. A licensee must report scheduled samplings to DLLC every two weeks using any reasonable means.

ground ambulances; registration (H.B. 2787) – Chapter 212

Authorizes the Department of Health Services (DHS) to allow an ambulance's certificate of registration to remain valid and in effect until DHS completes the required annual inspection if: 1) the certificate holder timely submits a valid and complete renewal application; and 2) DHS is unable to perform an inspection of the ambulance within the prescribed timeframe. For an active certificate of necessity holder that failed to submit a renewal application, whose certificate lapsed between March 31, 2022, and August 1, 2024, and whose ambulances are now registered, DHS must consider the expired registration of those ambulances as valid and in effect during the period of expiration if the holder pays, to DHS, all lapsed application fees. Repeals the ambulance certificate of registration validity requirements on January 1, 2026.

craft producer; festival; fair; license (H.B. 2905) – Chapter 36

Consolidates the farm winery, craft distillery and microbrewery festival and fair licenses into craft producer festival or fair licenses, as prescribed. Decreases, from 5,000 gallons to 1,000 gallons, the minimum amount of beer that must be annually produced or manufactured to qualify for a microbrewery license.

accessory dwelling units; requirements (H.B. 2928) – Chapter 217

Requires a county to adopt regulations that allow on any lot or parcel where a single-family dwelling is allowed: 1) at least one attached and one detached accessory dwelling unit (ADU) as a permitted use; and 2) a minimum of one additional detached ADU as a permitted use on a lot or parcel that is one acre or more in size. The county may require at least one ADU on the lot or parcel to be a restricted-affordable dwelling unit. The county must allow each developed ADU to be at least 75 percent of the gross floor area of the single-family dwelling on the same lot or parcel or 1,000 square feet, whichever is less. A municipality or county may require the owner of a vacation or short-term rental to reside on the property if the property contains an ADU and if a certificate of occupancy, certificate of completion or similar final approval for the ADU was issued on or after September 14, 2024, excluding lots and parcels that are located on land that has a noise level greater than 65 decibels. If a county fails to adopt the required ADU regulations by January 1, 2026, ADUs must be allowed on all lots or parcels zoned for residential use in the county without limit.

Prescribes restrictions relating to the development and regulation of ADUs. The ADU requirements do not: 1) prohibit restrictive covenants or shared well agreements concerning ADUs entered into between private parties; 2) supersede applicable building codes, fire codes or public health and safety regulations, except that a county may not require an ADU to comply with a commercial building code or contain a fire sprinkler; or 3) apply to lots or parcels located on tribal land or on land in the territory in the vicinity of a military airport or ancillary military facility, a federally licensed commercial airport or general aviation airport or a public airport.

Beginning January 1, 2026, the requirement for a city or town to administratively review and approve certain development documents and the authorization for a city or town to adopt a self-certification program for building projects does not apply to land that meets certain historic designations.

homelessness; urging congress; HUD ([H.C.M. 2011](#))

[SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.](#)

LEGISLATION VETOED

SNAP; TANF; public welfare; verification ([S.B. 1071](#)) – VETOED

Requires the Department of Economic Security (DES) to determine or evaluate Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) eligibility by reviewing information provided by specified state agencies and federal databases relating to potential earnings, employment status and residency. On at least a monthly basis, the Department of Health Services and DES must review information from specified federal sources to assess a participant's continued SNAP eligibility. On a least a quarterly basis, DES must post on its website the aggregated amounts obtained from noncompliance and fraud investigations related to SNAP, excluding confidential and personally identifiable information. If DES receives information that indicates a change in circumstance that may affect an individual's SNAP eligibility, DES must review the individual's case.

On at least a monthly basis, DES must use the data from an electronic benefit transfer card to identify any individual who has made purchases exclusively out-of-state over a 90-day period. If DES confirms that the individual does not reside in Arizona, DES must remove the individual within 30 days after contact and refer the individual to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1071 is duplicative and costly, creating needless frustrations for Arizona families.

medical boards; complaints; time limit ([S.B. 1072](#)) – VETOED

Requires the Arizona Medical Board (AMB) and Arizona Board of Osteopathic Examiners in Medicine and Surgery (ABOE), or the respective executive director if delegated, to take final action on a complaint that is unrelated to protecting public health and safety within one year. If final action is not taken within one year, the complaint is deemed administratively closed.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that every complaint that is properly before the AMB or ABOE pertains to the health and safety of Arizonans and S.B. 1072 risks confusion among physicians and the public.

residential contractor assessments; recovery fund (S.B. 1087) – VETOED

Bifurcates the biennial assessment a residential contractor must pay into the Residential Contractors' Recovery Fund (Fund) from a maximum of \$600 to a set amount of \$370 for initial licensure and \$270 for license renewal. If the Fund balance exceeds \$15,000,000 at the end of a fiscal year, the assessments must be reduced by 50 percent until the Fund amount is less than \$10,000,000 at the end of a subsequent fiscal year. At that time, the assessments must be reinstated to the full amounts.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1087 harms the state's ability to assist homeowners who have been harmed or defrauded by contractors and she states that the better approach for homeowners is to increase the limit on Fund claims.

unemployment benefits; requirements; disqualifications; determinations (S.B. 1296) – VETOED

Modifies eligibility requirements for unemployment insurance (UI) benefits to require an unemployed individual to seek and apply for suitable work by conducting at least five qualified work search actions each week and, if applicable, providing a weekly report to the Department of Economic Security (DES), rather than engaging in a systematic and sustained effort to obtain work and making at least one job contact per day on four different days of the week. An unemployed individual is disqualified from receiving UI benefits if the individual fails to: 1) seek and apply for suitable work; or 2) accept an offer of or accept reemployment for suitable work, if offered. An employer must report to DES when a previous employee refuses to return to work or accept a suitable work offer, fails to appear for an interview or fails to respond to an employment offer.

DES may not pay UI benefits for a claim until the initial claim is cross-checked, or an ongoing claim is cross-checked weekly, against outlined data sets. If a cross-check indicates that a claim is ineligible or fraudulent, DES may not pay the claim and the claimant is disqualified from receiving UI benefits and must be referred for prosecution. Prescribes claim criteria that DES must examine before UI benefits may be paid.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1296 creates unnecessary delays for workers, burdens for employers and costs for the state.

employer-employee arbitration; contract; disputes (S.B. 1514) – VETOED

Deems valid, enforceable and irrevocable a written agreement to arbitrate employment-related disputes between an employer and an employee whose primary job duties directly and necessarily involve the loading, unloading or handling of goods at a warehouse that is leased or owned by the employer, except when grounds exist at law or in equity to revoke the agreement. Prescribes employee and employer responsibilities in an employment-related dispute. The employer-employee arbitration requirements do not apply to an employee who is subject to an enforceable collective bargaining agreement, except to the extent allowed in the agreement.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that S.B. 1514 would enshrine forced arbitration in Arizona law mandating a take-it-or-leave-it approach to employment practices that hurts working Arizonans.

public employees; merit; hiring practices (S.B. 1584) – VETOED

Preempts the state or a political subdivision from: 1) establishing any policies or practices requiring employees to be hired based on anything other than the employee's merit; and 2) manipulating or influencing the composition of employees with reference to race, ethnicity, sex or national origin, except to ensure color-blind and race-neutral hiring. The Attorney General, a county attorney or any other person may file for declaratory relief, injunctive relief or damages for a violation of the preemption. A prevailing party is entitled to costs and reasonable attorney fees. The preemption does not contradict any state or federal antidiscrimination laws or employment laws that prohibit discriminatory practices.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that the state does not mandate any workforce composition and already has a merit-focused hiring system in an effort to recruit the best possible talent into the ranks of public service and S.B. 1584 attempts to solve a problem that does not exist and could impact employment opportunities for veterans.

gender transition procedures; provider liability (S.B. 1586) – VETOED

[SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.](#)

document retention; proposals; donations (S.B. 1612) – VETOED

Requires a company that responds to a request for proposal in accordance with the Arizona Procurement Code (RFP) or that applies for a state grant to disclose anything of value that the company, its officers or directors or any of their family members have provided, directly or indirectly, during the preceding five years to: 1) the Governor; 2) any entity established, financed, maintained or controlled by the Governor; or 3) any entity that advocated for the Governor's election or defeat of the Governor's electoral opponent. State agencies and employees may not destroy any notes taken during the evaluation of a company that responds to an RFP. If a state agency or employee destroys any notes taken during the evaluation, all contracts relating to the destroyed notes that were agreed to beginning September 26, 2025, may be resolicited.

Repeals the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System's exemption from the Arizona Procurement Code.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that AHCCCS' current procurement and award processes for managed care contracts are consistent with Medicaid industry best practices.

~~technical correction; obstructing governmental operations (NOW: egg-laying hens; housing size standards) (S.B. 1721) – VETOED~~

[SEE THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.](#)

acting in concert; evidence; exceptions (H.B. 2090) – VETOED

Limits, to within a 10-year period, restrictions on acting in concert to unlawfully divide a parcel of land into six or more lots or sell or lease six or more lots by using a series of owners or conveyances and adds the following conditions that alone are insufficient to constitute unlawful acting in concert: 1) a well share agreement; 2) a road maintenance agreement; or 3) for a county with a population of fewer than 500,000 persons, the use of the same licensed contractor or registered architect, engineer, geologist, home inspector, landscape architect or surveyor.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2090 makes statutory changes that do not help solve the water policy challenges that Arizona residents and communities face today and that she will not consider rural groundwater legislation outside the context of current negotiations on an alternative framework.

real estate; definition of contiguous (H.B. 2094) – VETOED

Modifies the definition of *contiguous* to: 1) include lots, parcels or fractional interests separated by a private road or street; and 2) exclude lots, parcels or fractional interests separated by a public road, street or highway that has been dedicated to and accepted by the state or a political subdivision.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2094 makes statutory changes that do not help solve the water policy challenges that Arizona residents and communities face today and that she will not consider rural groundwater legislation outside the context of current negotiations on an alternative framework.

SNAP; mandatory employment and training (H.B. 2121) – VETOED

Requires the Department of Economic Security to require able-bodied adults under 60 years old who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits to participate in a federal mandatory employment and training program, unless the recipient meets outlined criteria.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2121 would create additional barriers for families struggling to put food on the table and is not the way to expand opportunity, security and freedom for Arizonans.

SNAP; work requirement waivers; exemptions (H.B. 2122) – VETOED

Prohibits the Department of Economic Security (DES) from seeking, applying for, accepting or renewing any work requirement waiver under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) for able-bodied adults without dependents, unless required by federal law or authorized by state law. DES may not exercise Arizona's option to provide exemptions from the SNAP work requirement unless authorized by state law.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2122 would create additional barriers for people struggling to put food on the table and is not the way to expand opportunity, security and freedom for Arizonans.

psychologist board; complaint-related documents (H.B. 2441) – VETOED

Entitles a complainant to copies of all documents received and reviewed by the Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners (Board) in connection with an investigation, except as otherwise restricted under state or federal law.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2441 is unnecessary as the Board already provides copies of investigation files, upon request, to licensees in open cases.

AHCCCS; enrollment verification; presumptive eligibility (H.B. 2449) – VETOED

Beginning January 1, 2026, requires the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) to establish outlined data-matching agreements with the Arizona Department of Revenue, Department of Health Services and Department of Economic Security for review of member eligibility information. AHCCCS may not: 1) accept self-attestation of certain eligibility information without independent verification before enrollment, unless required by federal law; 2) request authority to waive or decline to periodically check available income-related data sources to verify eligibility; or 3) accept eligibility determinations from a federally facilitated exchange. AHCCCS may: 1) accept assessments from a federally facilitated exchange but must independently verify eligibility and make eligibility determinations; 2) execute a memorandum of understanding with any other state department for statutorily required information; and 3) contract with independent vendors to provide additional data for member eligibility information. By April 1, 2026, AHCCCS must submit to the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (U.S. CMS) any waiver request necessary to implement the enrollment eligibility review requirements.

Requires AHCCCS to request approval from U.S. CMS for a section 1115 waiver to allow the elimination of mandatory hospital presumptive eligibility and restrict presumptive eligibility determinations to children and pregnant women. If the section 1115 waiver is denied, AHCCCS must resubmit subsequent requests for approval within 12 months after each denial. Prescribes requirements for AHCCCS and qualified hospitals when making a presumptive eligibility determination.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that AHCCCS has a number of efficient and effective member eligibility processes and H.B. 2449 would expend state resources on inefficient administrative redundancies with no clear return on investment.

unemployment insurance; benefit amounts (H.B. 2450) – VETOED

Modifies the duration of unemployment insurance benefits that a person may receive during a benefit year, based on the unemployment rate during the prior calendar quarter.

The Governor indicates in her [veto message](#) that H.B. 2450 would cut unemployment insurance which will not connect Arizona workers to jobs that match their skills more quickly.

Memorials & Resolutions



MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS

vision zero; transportation planning ([S.C.M. 1002](#))

Urges the U.S. President and Congress to eliminate Vision Zero and the Safe Systems approach to transportation planning and funding and to instead promote transportation solutions that prioritize sound engineering methods, reliable safety outcomes, flexibility and engineering innovation without compromising individual freedoms or economic efficiency.

prohibit tax; monitoring; vehicle mileage ([S.C.R. 1004/H.C.R. 2035](#))

[SEE THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.](#)

United States; Taiwan; supporting trade ([S.C.R. 1039](#))

Declares support for the negotiation of a U.S.-Taiwan bilateral trade agreement and Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations. Acknowledges achievements made by Arizona and Taiwan in the fields of economy, trade, technology, education and culture since establishing sister-state relations and encourages continued bilateral cooperation and exchanges between the two sides in the future.

expenditure limit; school districts; 2025-2026 ([S.C.R. 1041](#))

[SEE THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.](#)

expenditure limitation; school districts; 2026-2027 ([S.C.R. 1042](#))

[SEE THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.](#)

stormwater; groundwater; recharge; urging support ([H.C.M. 2003](#))

Urges the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) and the Arizona State Land Department (ASLD) to focus on increasing ground water recharge through the planning and development of groundwater recharge infrastructure projects by: 1) supporting the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority and the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund; and 2) developing the 331 sites identified by ADWR and ASLD on state trust land for groundwater recharge infrastructure projects. Encourages ADWR and ASLD to consider the increased groundwater supply from projects in private and public party models and decisions regarding the future health of a basin when such private and public parties take proactive steps to increase groundwater recharge through groundwater infrastructure projects.

military bases; exemption from ESA ([H.C.M. 2004](#))

Urges the U.S. Congress to enact legislation exempting U.S. military bases and training facilities from the regulations and restrictions of the federal Endangered Species Act.

Jimmie Preston; memorial bridge ([H.C.M. 2006](#))

Urges the Arizona State Board on Geographic and Historic Names and the U.S. Board on Geographic Names to name the truss bridge in Cameron, Arizona as the *Jimmie Preston Memorial Bridge*.

hardrock mines; remediation; urging support ([H.C.M. 2007](#))

Urges the Arizona State Mine Inspector and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to work with federal agencies and the private sector to find qualifying legacy mining sites in Arizona and apply for the pilot program under the federal Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act.

EPA; regional offices; move ([H.C.M. 2008](#))

Urges the U.S. President and the U.S. Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to: 1) address the impacts of EPA Region 9 on Arizona by considering strategies to move the EPA Region 9 Office, modify Arizona's EPA region designation or establish a new office; and 2) establish and staff a dedicated, local satellite office for the new relevant EPA region in Phoenix.

San Carlos irrigation project; divestiture ([H.C.M. 2009](#))

Urges the U.S. Congress to: 1) pass legislation divesting the United States and the Bureau of Indian Affairs of the San Carlos Irrigation Project (SCIP) electric system; and 2) provide funding for a system study and improvements that will provide reliable, affordable and safe power to SCIP customers.

air quality; ozone levels ([H.C.M. 2010](#))

Urges the U.S. President and Congress to prevent the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from imposing coercive and likely unconstitutional penalties on Arizona to comply with an ozone standard that is impossible to attain through any of the control measures being considered. Urges the EPA to: 1) revise its regulations to comply with the federal requirement for the EPA Administrator to approve a state implementation plan if the state establishes that it would attain and maintain the relevant air quality standard but for emissions emanating outside of the United States; and 2) maintain the existing 2015 standard and not further lower an already unattainable standard that is not supported by science.

homelessness; urging congress; HUD ([H.C.M. 2011](#))

Urges the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness to: 1) repeal the continuum of care interim rule to provide more flexibility for state and local governments to design housing solutions that are responsive to local conditions; 2) amend the homeless management information system rule to streamline reporting requirements, reduce administrative burdens and allow providers to direct more resources toward client services; 3) eliminate HUD's performance standards and measures; 4) rescind housing-first policy mandates; and 5) reduce federal standards in the Emergency Solutions Grants Program.

Urges the U.S. Congress to repeal the McKinney-Vento Act Amendments of 2009, reduce HUD's role in Permanent Supportive Housing and shift HUD funding to block grants, rather than direct assistance.

antiquities act; exception ([H.C.M. 2012](#))

Urges the U.S. Congress to immediately enact legislation that exempts Arizona from the federal Antiquities Act, similar to the exemption granted to Wyoming.

corporation commission; reliable energy ([H.C.M. 2014](#))

Urges the Arizona Corporation Commission to: 1) ensure the Arizona grid is powered by affordable and reliable energy generation; 2) prevent regulated utilities from shutting down critical dispatchable energy sources and replacing them with solar, wind and battery storage; 3) reconsider decisions approving the closure of existing coal plants; 4) direct regulated utilities to revise, update and resubmit the most recent integrated resource plans as outlined; and 5) support the presidential agenda to unleash American energy with the use of reliable sources of power generation.

proof of citizenship; voter registration ([H.C.M. 2015](#))

Urges the U.S. Congress to immediately pass, and the U.S. President to sign, legislation requiring the Election Assistance Commission to include state-specific voter registration instructions on the federal voter registration form that encompass all state-set qualifications and recognize the plenary power of the states over presidential elections, the qualifications to vote and the manner to determine whether those qualifications have been met.

gold star families; legacy preservation ([H.C.R. 2010](#))

Declares that the Legislature: 1) reaffirms its support and gratitude to America's Gold Star Families; 2) honors the legacy of the term *Gold Star Families*, recognizes the term as an enduring symbol of sacrifice, grief and resilience and commits to preserving the meaning of Gold Star Families; 3) opposes any efforts to change or redefine the term *Gold Star Families*; 4) urges the protection and elevation of the term *Gold Star Families*; and 5) pledges to ensure that Gold Star Families receive the care, respect and recognition they deserve.

reinstatement; WIFA monies ([H.C.R. 2016](#))

Expresses the state's commitment to investing in long-term solutions to alleviate the impacts of water scarcity in urban and rural Arizona and deems the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority's (WIFA's) mission as critical to current and future economic and environmental health. Expresses the Legislature's commitment, as budgetary conditions improve, to working with WIFA to reemphasize its commitment to long-term water security and to reinstating the full appropriation envisioned and needed to secure new water supplies and enter strategic partnerships.

food; municipal tax; exemption ([H.C.R. 2021](#))

[SEE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.](#)

nuclear energy; Palo Verde; support ([H.C.R. 2022](#))

Expresses support for the Palo Verde Generating Station and the safe and efficient use of nuclear energy to supply the energy consumption needs of Arizonans.

assured water supply; legislative intent ([H.C.R. 2039](#))

Expresses the Legislature's: 1) opposition to the rule for the alternative path to an assured water supply designation that was proposed by the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) on August 23, 2024; 2) determination that the rule is contrary to Arizona statute and is therefore null and void; 3) opposition to any rule, regulation, policy or condition that the Governor or Director of ADWR proposes or adopts that meets outlined conditions and determines that such regulation is contrary to the text and legislative intent of the 1980 Groundwater Management Act and is void and unenforceable; and 4) determination that, if an application meets the requirements of the 1980 Groundwater Management Act and the outlined legislative intent, the Director of ADWR has no authority to deny or withhold the issuance of a certificate or designation of assured water supply for the processing of an application.

minerals; metals; supporting domestic supply ([H.C.R. 2044](#))

Declares that the Legislature: 1) recognizes and affirms the importance of Arizona's mineral resources and mining industry; 2) supports policies and initiatives that promote domestic production, refining and recycling of resources to reduce reliance on foreign imports; 3) beseeches federal, state and local governments to streamline the mining permitting process; 4) commits to fostering a business-friendly environment that encourages mining investment in Arizona; and 5) requests that the federal government develop a comprehensive and strategic critical minerals policy that prioritizes national security, economic stability and environmental sustainability.

law enforcement; first responders; honoring ([H.C.R. 2045](#))

Recognizes the rich history of Arizona's first responders and honors and expresses gratitude to all law enforcement personnel, other first responders and volunteers for their unparalleled public service.

Colorado River; cause of decline ([H.C.R. 2046](#))

Urges the U.S. Congress to fund the eradication of salt cedars and enable the responsible mechanical thinning of unhealthy overgrown forests in the West. Declares that the mismanagement of overgrown forests and the proliferation of water-depleting plants like salt cedars in American watersheds are reducing annual flows to the Colorado River and urges state and federal legislators and government administrators to acknowledge and support outlined efforts.

Daniel Espinoza Hernandez; death resolution ([H.C.R. 2048](#))

Expresses sincere regret at the death of Daniel Espinoza Hernandez and extends sympathies to his family members.

sovereign authority ([H.C.R. 2049](#))

[SEE THE FEDERALISM COMMITTEE.](#)

Yuma agriculture; water rights; supporting ([H.C.R. 2051](#))

Declares the Legislature's intent to protect Yuma agriculture and Arizona's rights to Colorado River water.

drug cartels; terrorist organizations ([H.C.R. 2055](#))

[SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.](#)

Phil Austin; death resolution ([H.C.R. 2059](#))

Expresses sincere regret at the passing of Phillip Austin and extends deepest regrets and condolences to his family and friends.

honoring Joan Romano ([H.R. 2003](#))

Honors Joan Romano for 35 years of exceptional service to the Legislature and extends thanks to Joan Romano for her service and well wishes on her retirement.

Fred Shulski; death resolution ([H.R. 2004](#))

Expresses sincere regret at the death of Fred P. Shulski, Jr. and extends deepest sympathies to his family members.

Honorable Martha Garcia; death resolution ([H.R. 2005](#))

Acknowledges the passing of the Honorable Martha Garcia and extends condolences to her family and many friends.

honoring Michael Hunter ([H.R. 2006](#))

Honors and thanks Michael Hunter for his many years of exceptional service to the State of Arizona and wishes him well in his future endeavors.

Paul Gilbert Berumen; death resolution ([H.R. 2007](#))

Expresses sincere regret at the death of Paul Gilbert Berumen and extends deepest sympathies to his family members.

Alberto Gutier; death resolution ([H.R. 2008](#))

Expresses sincere regret at the passing of Alberto Gutier and extends condolences to his family and many friends.

Bill Index



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W/O – Without Emergency

V/O – Veto Override

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RFE – Requirements for Enactment

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Keyword Index



KEYWORD INDEX

E – Emergency

W/O – Without Emergency

V/O – Veto Override

RFEIR – Requirements for Enactment; Initiative or Referendum

W/S – Without Signature

LIVS – Line Item Veto Signed

RFE – Requirements for Enactment

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