2026 Legislative Summary

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



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Arizona State Senate

September 25, 2026

Dear Reader:

The 2026 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, Second Regular Session (2026). 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.

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ACTION KEY

E – Emergency
W/O – Without Emergency
V/O – Veto Override
W/S – Without Signature
LIVS – Line Item Veto Signed
RFE – Requirements for Enactment
RFEIR – Requirements for Enactment; Initiative or Referendum

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APPROPRIATIONS, TRANSPORTATION & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

special plate; Arizona space commission (S.B. 1020) – Chapter 13

Requires the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to issue an Arizona Space Commission special plate if a $32,000 implementation fee is paid to ADOT by December 31, 2026. Requires $17 of the $25 special plate fee collected from each special plate to be deposited in the Space Exploration and Aeronautics Research Fund and asserts that $8 of the $25 special plate fee is an administration fee that ADOT must deposit in the State Highway Fund.

appropriation; named claimants (S.B. 1097) – Chapter 15

Effective April 7, 2026, appropriates $370,211.08 from the state General Fund and $33,021.18 from other funds in FY 2026 to various state agencies for the payment of past claims.

motor vehicle booting; fees; regulation (S.B. 1205) – Chapter 156

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

~~commercial buildings; telecommunications services~~ (NOW: study committee towing) (S.B. 1366) – Chapter 172

Establishes the seven-member Public Property Towing and Impound Practices Study Committee (Study Committee) and outlines Study Committee membership. The Study Committee must: 1) review current fees, rates, fines and charges for Department of Public Safety (DPS) initiated vehicle tows; 2) examine the qualifications and operational standards for public property towing companies to qualify for government-authorized vehicle towing; 3) evaluate minimum insurance requirements and background check standards for towing company owners and operators; 4) review the impact of state laws and rules and DPS policies relating to public property towing; and 5) submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and Legislature by December 31, 2026. Repeals the Study Committee on October 1, 2027.

~~ADOT; primitive roads; designation~~ (NOW: authorized third party; bond exemption) (S.B. 1456) – Chapter 230

Adds an employer or association that has at least 500 employees or members to the list of entities that are exempt from the statutory bond requirements prescribed for authorized third-party driver license providers.

ADOT; revisions. (S.B. 1552) – Chapter 232

Primitive Roads – Allows the Director of the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to designate a state highway or route as a primitive road and requires ADOT to place signs on each primitive road in adequate locations to warn the public that the road is not regularly maintained and to use the road at the driver's own risk. The state and state employees are not liable for damages or injuries resulting from the use of a primitive road, except for intentional injuries or gross negligence caused by an employee acting within the scope of employment.

Driver Licenses – Requires a licensee to update the licensee's photograph if the license has not been updated in the preceding 16 years, rather than 12 years, and removes the option of providing a report based on a vision test or medical examination to ADOT in lieu of updating the licensee's photograph. Adds court ordered evidenced-based psychotherapy for persons whose driver license or privilege is suspended or revoked to the list of programs that a person must complete or be satisfactorily participating in before ADOT may terminate the suspension and issue a new or special ignition interlock restricted driver license.

High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes – Adds, to the vehicles that may use the HOV lane during restricted hours, a blood transport vehicle that displays a removable sign or decal on the vehicle's sides and rear indicating that the vehicle is transporting human blood or blood products.

Special License Plates – Requires ADOT to issue special plates for skin cancer prevention, diabetes awareness, community healthy living, blood and biologics, search and rescue, police service dogs, law enforcement charity organization, law enforcement support, youth education, golf tournament charity, kindness charity, public education foundation, astronomy center, the Grand Canyon National Park, adaptive sports and recreation, elk and other wildlife, distracted driving, historic electric vehicles, advocating for small businesses, recycling refurbished electronics, returning warriors and bronze and silver star medals, if an implementation fee of $32,000 per special plate is paid to ADOT by December 31, 2026. 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.

Modifies requirements relating to the Congressional Medal of Honor license plate. Repeals the honorary consular official special plate and requires ADOT to recall and replace the special plates with standard license plates.

Miscellaneous – Requires a contract between a law enforcement agency and a business that uses a camera system for the sole purpose of identifying motor vehicles to include a provision that prohibits the business from selling or disseminating any data collected by the camera system to third parties. ADOT must publish a notice of intent to allow the disposition of a junk vehicle on ADOT's website for at least 30 days, rather than publish the notice once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the junk vehicle was found. Allows the Director of ADOT to notify an aircraft owner of an assessment for failing to register an aircraft using electronic means and removes the related in-writing and in-person or mail notification delivery requirements.

L.F. Quinn memorial highway (S.C.M. 1002)

SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.

PFC Michael Noline memorial highway (S.C.M. 1006)

SEE MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS.

photo enforcement systems; prohibition (NOW: photo enforcement systems; voter approval) (S.C.R. 1004)

Subject to voter approval, statutorily prohibits a local authority or state agency from using a photo enforcement system to identify violators of speed restrictions or traffic control devices, unless: 1) the local authority or state agency has a signed contract to operate a photo enforcement system by December 31, 2026; and 2) the local authority seeks and receives voter approval to continue operation of the photo enforcement system at the next general election. A local authority must seek reapproval from the voters every 10 years to continue to use a photo enforcement system. If the voters fail to approve the operation of a photo enforcement system, the local authority must cease system operation within 90 days of the election. 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.

special plate; centennial; fleet discount (H.B. 2057) – Chapter 20

Decreases, from $25 to $20, the registration and renewal fee for the Arizona Centennial special plate for registered commercial fleet vehicles.

childhood cancer research; commission (H.B. 2082) – Chapter 79

SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.

motorcycle registration requirements; safety fund (H.B. 2114) – Chapter 246

Beginning January 1, 2027, requires the Director of the Governor's Office of Highway Safety to use up to 25 percent of Motorcycle Safety Fund monies for scholarships for motorcycle driver education programs for persons who are from rural or low-income areas.

Except motorcycles owned by a business, the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) may renew a motorcycle registration only if one of the registered motorcycle owners is licensed to legally operate a motorcycle in Arizona or, if the registered owner is a trust, a trustee is legally licensed to operate a motorcycle. ADOT may issue a 30-day temporary registration if the motorcycle owner shows valid proof of enrollment in an approved motorcycle training program.

~~HOV lane; blood transport vehicles~~ (NOW: watercraft fund; distribution of monies) (H.B. 2257) – Chapter 248

Replaces the requirement for the Arizona Game and Fish Commission to annually determine an allocation formula for Law Enforcement and Boating Safety Fund (Fund) monies with a statutorily prescribed allocation formula that requires specified percentages of Fund monies

to be allocated to certain counties. Modifies the allocation of watercraft registration and infrastructure fee revenue.

excessive speed; speed inhibiting device (H.B. 2417) – Chapter 200

SEE THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.

traffic penalties; appeal; stay (H.B. 2574) – Chapter 100

Requires a court, if an appeal for a civil traffic violation judgment is granted, to report the stay of judgment to the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT). On receipt of the report, ADOT may not take any administrative action relating to the judgment until the stay is lifted or the judgment is affirmed by an appellate court.

technology study committee; assistive technology (H.B. 2700) – Chapter 253

Establishes the 15-member Technology First Study Committee (Study Committee) to study and address specific issues related to assistive technology, including technology first initiatives. Outlines Study Committee membership and requires the Study Committee to: 1) analyze emerging assistive technologies and how to better serve individuals with assistive technology needs; 2) identify potential changes in assistive technologies; and 3) submit a report detailing the Study Committee's activities and recommendations to the Governor, Legislature and Secretary of State by October 1, 2027. Terminates the Study Committee on October 2, 2027.

commerce authority; trade offices (H.B. 2752) – Chapter 110

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

ignition interlock devices; violation; classification (H.B. 2800) – Chapter 259

Increases, from a class 1 misdemeanor to a class 6 felony, the penalty for knowingly lending a motor vehicle that is not equipped with a functioning ignition interlock device to a person who has a limited or restricted driving privilege due to a driving under the influence or refusal of test violation, if the other person is involved in a collision that results in serious physical injury or death while operating the borrowed vehicle.

~~traffic schools; instructors; fingerprint clearance~~ (NOW: fingerprint clearance cards; temporary authorization) (H.B. 2916) – Chapter 119

Allows a temporary work authorization to be granted to a person who is required to obtain and possess a valid fingerprint clearance card (FCC) while the person is pending approval for a federal criminal records check if all other prescribed requirements are met. A person who is granted a temporary work authorization may work while the person's FCC application is processing if the person: 1) provides documentation to the relevant state agency that shows that the person's

application is pending with the Department of Public Safety (DPS); and 2) certifies that the person is not subject to registration as a sex offender and is not awaiting trial on, has never been convicted of and has never admitted in open court to an offense that would preclude the person from being granted a valid FCC. A temporary work authorization expires if DPS denies the issuance of an FCC and DPS must notify the relevant state agency of the denial.

A state agency may: 1) adopt any policies and procedures necessary to implement temporary work authorization requirements; 2) conduct third-party background checks; 3) deny a temporary work authorization if the agency has verifiable information that the person is precluded from receiving a valid FCC; and 4) take appropriate disciplinary action against a person who misrepresents any information when seeking a temporary work authorization.

Beginning January 1, 2027, requires each instructor employed by or under contract with a traffic survival school to provide the Arizona Department of Transportation with a valid FCC.

state route 69; urge renaming (H.C.M. 2007)

Urges the Arizona State Board on Geographic and Historic Names to divide State Route 69 into six equal sections to be renamed as the: 1) *World War I Veterans Memorial Highway*; 2) *World War II Veterans Memorial Highway*; 3) *Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway*; 4) *Vietnam War Veterans Memorial Highway*; 5) *Desert Storm Veterans Memorial Highway*; and 6) *Iraq and Afghanistan War Veterans Memorial Highway*.

~~elected officials; salary; prohibition~~ (NOW: military families; scholarship accounts) (H.C.R. 2048)

SEE THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

FY 2026 – FY 2027 STATE BUDGET PACKAGE

general appropriations act; 2026-2027. (S.B. 1847/H.B. 4154) – Chapter 126

Effective June 13, 2026, the FY 2027 state budget includes spending in the total amount of $18.28 billion and a cash balance of $41.2 million. The adopted state budget includes ongoing and one-time revenues of $18.32 billion.

The budget includes FY 2027 (unless otherwise stated) one-time additional state General Fund (state GF) spending as follows:

	State GF $ (in Millions)*
Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) – State Employee Professional Development – Other Fund (OF)	1.0
ADOA – Lapse Prior Budget Funding for Debt Retirement – FY 2022	(5.0)
ADOA – 9-1-1 Call Response Times – OF	4.0

	State GF $ (in Millions)*
ADOA – Food Bank Capital Assistance	3.0
ADOA – Local Flood Aid – Globe, Miami and Gila County – OF	10.0
ADOA – Local Distribution – County Sheriff Support	7.0
ADOA – School Facilities Division (SFD) – Building Renewal Grants	183.3
ADOA – SFD – Administrative Costs	0.8
ADOA – SFD – Adjust New Construction Formula Funding – Surplus	(26.1)
Arizona Department of Agriculture (AZDA) – Licensing Information Technology (IT) System Maintenance – OF	0.5
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) – Formula – FY 2026	40.2
AHCCCS – H.R. 1 Eligibility Administrative Costs	10.2
AHCCCS – Critical Access Rural Hospitals Aid	4.3
AHCCCS – Behavioral Health Crisis Services Hotline (9-8-8)	4.0
AHCCCS – Urban Traditional Healing – FYs 2027 through 2029	0.4
Attorney General (AG) – Coordinated Reentry Assistance to Counties	8.4
Arizona Commission on the Arts – Arts Trust Fund	2.0 FY 2027
	1.0 FY 2028
Department of Child Safety (DCS) – Federal Match Rate Adjustment	1.9
DCS – Extended Foster Care	1.0
DCS – Expand Extended Foster Care Coaching	8.2
DCS – Congregate Care	36.9
DCS – Guardian IT System	9.8
Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR) – Correctional Officer Filled Vacant Positions – FY 2026	4.1
ADCRR – Body-Worn Cameras for Correctional Officers	3.5
Department of Economic Security (DES) – Formula – FY 2026	(14.0)
DES – Increased Contractual Costs for Legacy Mainframe Systems	6.1
DES – $120 Summer Food Benefit – FYs 2026 through 2028	1.8
DES – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Error Rate Reduction Workload	10.8
DES – Developmental Disabilities (DD) High-Need Client	17.9
DES – Child Care	44.8
DES – Area Agencies on Aging	5.0
DES – Civil Legal Aid	3.0

	State GF $ (in Millions)*
DES – Double Up Food Bucks	2.0
DES – Out-Of-School Care Grants	3.0
DES – Reentry Employment Support	1.5
Arizona Department of Education (ADE) – Formula – FY 2026	(79.1)
ADE – Unused Land Trust Balances	(8.0)
ADE – Community Gardens	0.6
ADE – Fund 3rd-Year Low-Income Weight Increase	37.0
ADE – Fund 3rd-Year Additional Assistance Increase	29.0
ADE – Continue FY 2026 School Meals Funding	1.8
ADE – Lapse Prior Budget Funding for High-Quality Teacher Professional Development	(0.3) FY 2020
	(0.4) FY 2021
	(0.4) FY 2022
ADE – Lapse Prior Budget Funding for Live, Remote Instructional Courses	(0.1) FY 2024
	(0.1) FY 2025
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) – Iron King Mine Humboldt Smelter Group	2.0
ADEQ – Water Quality Fee Fund Deposit – OF	9.5
Department of Forestry and Fire Management (DFFM) – Wildfire Suppression	10.0
Arizona Department of Gaming (ADG) – Racing Regulation Fund Deposit	1.9
Department of Health Services (DHS) – Sexually Violent Persons Funding	1.5
DHS – Arizona State Hospital Operating Funding	2.1
DHS – Existing Cooling Centers for Heat Relief – OF	0.4
Arizona Department of Homeland Security (AZDOHS) – Increase Cybersecurity State and Local Grants – OF	1.5
Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions (DIFI) – Transition to New Fee Authority	1.6
Judiciary – Superior Court – County Probation Salary Increases	10.5
Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) – Operating Shortfall	0.6
Department of Public Safety (DPS) – Highway Patrol Operating Expenses – FY 2026 – OF	4.75
DPS – Caseload Increase of Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board Training Academy Costs – OF	2.0
Secretary of State (SOS) – Election Expenses – FY 2026	4.0
SOS – Address Confidentiality Program	0.4

	State GF $ (in Millions)*
State Treasurer – Lapse Prior Budget Funding for Ballot Paper	(5.0) FY 2024
	(6.0) FY 2025
Universities – University of Arizona (U of A) – Water Adjudication	0.5
Universities – U of A – Arizona Resource Equity and Access Coordination Hub (REACH)	0.5
Arizona Department of Veterans' Services (ADVS) – State Home for Veterans' Trust Fund – FY 2026	3.0
Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) – Colorado River Litigation Fund Deposit – OF	6.0
2.5% Statewide Reduction	(23.8)
State Employee Health Insurance Funding	324.7
Statewide Fleet Charge Adjustments – Operating	2.9
Statewide Fleet Charge Adjustments – Replacement	2.0
Statewide Accounting System Charge Adjustment	1.3
Statewide Risk Management Charge Adjustment	5.0

**Figures are rounded.*

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

	State GF $ (in Millions)*
AHCCCS – Formula	(42.0)
AHCCCS – Office of the Inspector General – Seven Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTEs)	0.4
ADCRR – Shift OF to state GF for Operating Needs	15.6
ADCRR – Noncontract Medication – Substance Abuse/Hepatitis C – Backfill	6.7
ADCRR – 4% Correctional Officer Stipend	24.0
ADCRR – Health Care Federal Injunction Costs	55.8
ADCRR – Shift OF Spending to Capital Uses	10.0
ADCRR – Continue FYs 2025 through 2027 Private Prison Funding – FY 2028	54.3
Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) – Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Federal Funds Backfill	2.3
Community Colleges – Formula	0.7
Arizona Corporation Commission – Shift Railroad Safety Funding from state GF to OF	(0.8)

	State GF $ (in Millions)*
DES – Formula	(42.4)
DES – SNAP Administrative Match Rate Adjustment	(0.9)
DES – Eliminate Projected SNAP Error Rate Penalty – FY 2028	(138.0)
DES – VOCA Federal Funds Backfill	11.5
ADE – Formula	(92.1)
Board of Executive Clemency – Increase Board Member Salaries	0.2
DIFI – Shift state GF to New Fee Authority	(6.3)
Judiciary – Judicial Salary Increases	1.1
Judiciary – County Probation Salary Increases – FY 2029	10.5
ADJC – 4% Correctional Officer Stipend	0.8
Arizona State Land Department – Central Arizona Project Fees Technical Adjustment	(0.2)
DPS – Security for the Newly Established Lieutenant Governor's Office	0.7
DPS – VOCA Federal Funds Backfill	9.3
DPS – Public Safety Grant Support Staff – Five FTEs – OF	0.5
Arizona Department of Real Estate – IT Project Maintenance Costs	0.1
State Treasurer – Justice of the Peace Salary Funding	0.1
Universities – U of A – Remove Natural Resource Users Law and Policy Center Funding	(1.6)
State Employee Health Insurance Funding – FY 2029	100.0
Statewide Fleet Charge Adjustments	2.9
Statewide Rent Charge Adjustments	0.1
Statewide Retirement Costs Adjustment	(3.8)
Statewide Risk Management Charge Adjustment	4.9
Administrative Adjustments and Reversions	(25.5)

**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 $50,000 to pay outstanding costs of services provided by the ADOA Central Services Bureau in prior years.

ADOA

- Requires ADOA, by July 15, 2026, to distribute the $10,000,000 FY 2027 appropriation for Gila County disaster relief as follows:
  - $2,500,000 to the Town of Miami;
  - $2,500,000 to the City of Globe; and
  - $5,000,000 to Gila County.

- Prescribes eligibility requirements for food banks to receive monies appropriated to ADOA for food bank capital.

SFD

- Allows the SFD to use the unencumbered balance of $27,318,100 in the New School Facilities Fund for facilities and land costs for school districts that received final approval by December 15, 2025.

AZDA

- Allows the AZDA to use up to $250,000 from the Commercial Feed Trust Fund in FY 2027 for two FTEs, as outlined.

- Allows the AZDA to conduct inspections as part of the response at the border, if the border opens for live cattle imports, and allows the State Veterinarian to oversee the screwworm response.

AHCCCS

- Exempts the $51,500,000 appropriation for H.R. 1 implementation for Medicaid from lapsing until June 30, 2028.

- Exempts the $28,400,000 appropriation for H.R. 1 implementation for Medicaid IT system upgrades from IT Authorization Committee review.

AG

- Requires the $17,000,000 appropriation for coordinated reentry planning services grants to be distributed in $2,000,000 increments to Coconino, La Paz, Maricopa, Mohave, Navajo, Pima, Pinal and Yavapai Counties in FY 2027 and requires $1,000,000 to be distributed as a grant to establish a statewide coordinated reentry planning services database.

- Specifies that the coordinated reentry planning services grants include $3,000,000 from monies deposited in the Consumer Remediation Subaccount of the Consumer Restitution and Remediation Revolving Fund that are not related to opioid claims.

Barbering and Cosmetology Board

- Requires the Barbering and Cosmetology Board to use $235,000 of its FY 2027 lump sum appropriation to fill three FTEs for a licensing specialist, customer service representative and quality assurance specialist.

Arizona Board of Chiropractic Examiners

- Requires the Arizona Board of Chiropractic Examiners, by September 1, 2026, to provide a report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) and the Governor's Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) that details the proposed resolution to the imbalance between ongoing revenues and expenditures.

ADCRR

- Specifies that the $273,126,400 FY 2027 appropriation for private prison contracted services includes $3,767,200 for awarding a correctional officer salary increase.

- Requires ADCRR to increase the contracted rates in FY 2027 to provide an amount sufficient for a four percent salary increase to each correctional officer employed by a private prison that contracts with the state.

- Specifies that ADCRR's lump sum appropriation includes funding sufficient to convert the one-time stipend appropriated in FY 2026 for corrections officers into a four percent annual salary increase in FY 2027.

ACJC

- Requires ACJC to evenly distribute the $600,000 FY 2027 appropriation for the Major Incident Regional Law Enforcement Task Force to the county sheriff's offices of the original five Major Incident Division task forces located in Cochise, Coconino, Navajo, Pinal and Yuma Counties.

Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (ASDB)

- Requires ASDB, by September 1, 2026, to submit a report to JLBC and OSPB that details the schools' budgetary and operational changes since FY 2026.

- Requires the $50,000 appropriation for supplemental early childhood services to be spent to continue current contracts with multiple providers to provide supplemental early childhood listening and spoken language services to eligible infants and toddlers from birth to three years old and their families.

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

DES

- Specifies that, of the $15,731,900 FY 2027 appropriation for adult services, DES must distribute $500,000 to both the Inter Tribal and Navajo Nation Area Agencies on Aging.

- Requires the $3,000,000 FY 2027 appropriation for civil legal aid to be distributed to nonprofit organizations to provide statewide general civil legal aid services consistent with the terms and restrictions of the legal services corporation as of federal FY 2026.

ADE

- Specifies that, of the $29,000,000 appropriated for additional assistance, $23,142,000 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 received by each district or charter in FY 2027.

- 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 one-time district additional assistance and 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.

- 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.

Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (DEMA)

- Allows DEMA to use any remaining unexpended and unencumbered monies from the FY 2023 appropriation for one-time maintenance backfill for the construction of the Arizona Army National Guard Surprise Readiness Center.

DFFM

- Specifies that $10,000,000 of the FY 2027 appropriation for fire suppression must be used for financial assistance to private landowners for emergency repairs for infrastructure damage resulting from fires or fire suppression activities.

DHS

- Requires the $1,500,000 FY 2027 appropriation for radiation protection systems grants to be used by DHS to establish and administer a grant program to assist rural hospitals with the cost of installing radiation protection systems in cardiac catheterization procedure rooms in which real-time x-ray imaging procedures occur.

Arizona Historical Society

- Stipulates that, if the Arizona Historical Society Donations Fund unrestricted balance is less than $300,000 in FY 2027, the Arizona Historical Society:
  - may use up to $549,600 from the State Parks Revenue Fund for operating expenditures; and
  - must notify and report to JLBC on the intended use of the State Parks Revenue Fund monies before spending monies on operating expenditures.

AZDOHS

- Prohibits monies appropriated in FY 2027 for Cyber Ready Arizona, excluding up to $500,000 for administration and up to $11,000,000 to purchase cybersecurity tool licenses, from being used to support permanent FTEs at any state agency or political subdivision.

- Allows AZDOHS to consider grant applications from water and wastewater facilities in addition to any existing recipient class.

Judiciary

- Sets the annual salary, beginning January 1, 2027, at:
  - $242,000 for the Chief Justice of the Arizona Supreme Court;
  - $235,000 for other Arizona Supreme Court justices;
  - $220,000 for court of appeals judges; and
  - $210,000 for superior court judges.

- Requires the $1,300,000 FY 2027 appropriation for probation electronic monitoring system operating costs to be used for the continued operation of a statewide mobile electronic monitoring system for sex offenders on probation supervision.

ADJC

- Specifies that ADJC's lump sum appropriation includes funding sufficient to convert the one-time stipend appropriated in FY 2026 for corrections officers into a four percent annual salary increase in FY 2027.

Legislature

- Requires the AG to use the $500,000 FY 2027 appropriation for a state employee health plan special audit to contract with an independent third party to conduct the special audit.

- Requires the special audit to include the state employee health plan's application of best practices in health insurance cost containment and a forensic audit of a sample of claims from FY 2026.

Arizona State Parks Board (ASPB)

- Stipulates that, if monies are available for Land and Water Conservation Grant Program funding to ASPB for capital projects in FY 2027, ASPB must report its revised expenditure plans to the Joint Committee on Capital Review and OSPB.

- Stipulates that, if federal Historic Preservation Fund grant monies are unavailable to the State Historic Preservation Office in federal FY 2027, ASPB:
  - may use up to $1,400,000 from the State Parks Revenue Fund for operating expenses; and
  - must report its expenditure plan to JLBC before spending any State Parks Revenue Fund monies.

DPS

- Requires DPS to enter into a new agreement with the recipient of the monies appropriated in FY 2026 for the Yuma County Family Advocacy Center in order to distribute any remaining funding from the appropriation.

SOS

- Requires the SOS, before spending the $4,000,000 FY 2027 appropriation for election services, to submit a report on the expected amount and purpose of expenditures for the costs of the 2026 primary and general elections to the Legislature, JLBC and Director of OSPB.

- Requires the SOS, by January 31, 2027, to submit a report to JLBC and OSPB detailing the actual expenditures, aggregated by purpose, from election services monies for the 2026 primary and general elections.

State Treasurer

- Allows the $50,000 FY 2026 appropriation for distribution to Pinal County for illegal dumping signage to also be used to expand and support the Pinal County Community Cleanup Free Dump Day Program.

ADVS

- Allows ADVS to spend the $1,000,000 FY 2023 appropriation for Arizona State Veterans' Homes for tribal members in veterans' homes.

amusements; 2026-2027 (H.B. 4155/S.B. 1848) – Chapter 127

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to amusements necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 state budget:

Specifies that monies remaining in the Liquor Licenses Fund exceeding $700,000 revert to the state General Fund on December 31 of each year, rather than at the end of each fiscal year.

Repeals the Fantasy Sports Contest Fund, transfers all remaining unexpended and unencumbered Fantasy Sports Contest Fund monies to the Event Wagering Fund and redirects the deposit of fantasy sports privilege fees and penalties to the Event Wagering Fund. Repeals the Unarmed Combat Subaccount within the Racing Regulation Fund and establishes the Unarmed Combat Subaccount within the Event Wagering Fund, administered by the Arizona Department of Gaming (ADG), and consisting of monies from unarmed combat licensing fees and other sources.

At the end of each month, the Director of the ADG must report to the Arizona Department of Administration the total amount received from unarmed combat licensing fees and other sources. The ADG may transfer monies for the annual costs to regulate and enforce event wagering from the Event Wagering Fund into the Unarmed Combat Subaccount.

Unless otherwise determined by the Legislature, the ADG may spend up to 10 percent of monies on the annual costs to regulate and enforce fantasy sports contests, in addition to event wagering. The ADG may: 1) spend up to $500,000 of the 10 percent each fiscal year to support problem gambling programs; and 2) use monies designated for problem gambling to disburse grants for problem gambling purposes.

Continues to require the ADG, in FY 2027, 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 peri-mutuel pools from in-state and out-of-state live and simulcast races. Continues to authorize the ADG, for race meetings in 2026 and 2027, 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; appropriations; 2026-2027 (H.B. 4156/S.B. 1849) – Chapter 128

Effective June 13, 2026, capital outlay expenditures account for $10,000,000 of FY 2027 state budget expenditures.

Building Renewal – Appropriates $57,413,200 in FY 2027 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)	state General Fund (state GF)	$10,000,000
	Capital Outlay Stabilization Fund (COSF)	$4,600,000
	Arizona State Hospital Land Fund	$554,000
Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR)	ADCRR Building Renewal Fund	$15,652,200
Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD)	AZGFD Fund	$1,932,900
Arizona State Lottery Commission	State Lottery Fund	$100,000
Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT)	State Highway Fund (SHF)	$24,158,500
	State Aviation Fund	$415,600

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 spend up to $4,570,000 of the monies appropriated for building renewal in FY 2027 to construct new facilities to address capital needs as required by the court in the *Jensen v. Thornell* inmate health care litigation and may not spend building renewal appropriations on personal services or overhead expenses related to managing funded projects.

Capital Projects – Appropriates $30,283,100 in FY 2027 to the following state agencies from the specified funds for individual capital projects:

Agency	Purpose	Fund	Amount
Arizona Exposition and State Fair Board	Capital improvements	Arizona Exposition and State Fair Fund	$3,905,900
AZGFD	Dam maintenance	Capital Improvement Fund	$150,000
AZGFD	Hatchery maintenance	Capital Improvement Fund	$400,000
AZGFD	Hatchery repairs	AZGFD Fund	$11,000,000
Arizona State Parks Board (ASPB)	Capital improvements	State Parks Revenue Fund	$3,552,200
ASPB	Develop a monitoring plan and install markers at Tonto National Bridge State Park	State Parks Revenue Fund	$200,000
Arizona Pioneers' Home	Capital improvements	Miners' Hospital for Miners with Disabilities Land Fund	$482,000
ADOT	Construct new materials lab in Kingman	SHF	$5,038,000
ADOT	Replace vehicle fueling facilities in Payson, Phoenix and Mesa	SHF	$4,944,000
ADOT	Design the renovation of the traffic signal and lighting warehouse in Phoenix	SHF	$611,000

Statewide Highway Construction – Appropriates $432,663,000 from the SHF in FY 2027 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 2027 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.

Specifies that the appropriations made in FYs 2021, 2023, 2024, 2026 and 2028 for improving State Route (SR) 347 may be used for design, right-of-way acquisition, utility relocation, natural resource recovery and construction to improve SR 347, including improvements to the intersection on SR 347 at Casa Blanca Road and Cement Plant Access and constructing an overpass at Riggs Road and SR 347.

Airports – Appropriates $29,048,900 from the State Aviation Fund in FY 2027 to ADOT for airport planning, construction, development and improvements. Appropriates balances and collections in the State Aviation Fund that exceed the amount appropriated by the FY 2027 General Appropriations Act and Capital Outlay Budget Reconciliation Bill to ADOT for authorized purposes. Prescribes reporting requirements for aviation grant awards and distributions.

Adjustments – Reduces appropriations made to ADOT in FYs 2021 and 2023 from the specified funds for the following highway projects:

Purpose	Fiscal Year	Fund	Amount
Repave SR 69 in Prescott Valley	2021	state GF	($116,200)
	2023	SHF	($1,819,000)
Repave SR 95 in Mohave County	2021	state GF	($1,734,300)
	2023	SHF	($6,052,200)
Repair SR 186 and State Business Route 10 in Willcox	2021	state GF	($93,100)
	2023	SHF	($765,600)
U.S. Route 89	2023	state GF	($1,052,600)
Rehabilitate pavement along U.S. Route 191 between Armory Road and East Safford	2023	SHF	($1,615,500)
Design and construct a screen wall along the east side of Loop 101 near 16th Street	2023	SHF	($885,000)
Install lighting on the Sentinel Exit in Gila Bend	2023	SHF	($322,500)
Rehabilitate pavement along U.S. Route 191 between mile posts 163 and 173	2023	SHF	($5,912,100)

Transfers, between July 2, 2026, and June 30, 2027, a total of $17,371,900 in reduced appropriations from the SHF to the state GF to provide adequate support and maintenance for state agencies. Transfers, by June 30, 2026, the FY 2026 reduction of $2,500,000 made to the appropriation for the rehabilitation of pavement along U.S. Route 191 between Armory Road and East Safford from the SHF to the state GF for the support and maintenance of state agencies.

Miscellaneous – Delays the following: 1) from FY 2028 to FY 2029, the $25,000,000 appropriation from the state GF to the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services (ADVS) to establish a veterans' home facility in the northwestern portion of the state; 2) from June 30, 2026,

to June 30, 2028, the date on which the FY 2026 appropriation of $850,300 from the State Aviation Fund to ADOT for the renovation of the Grand Canyon Airport Terminal reverts to the State Aviation Fund, if ADOT does not receive a Federal Aviation Administration grant for the project; and 3) from June 30, 2026, to June 30, 2027, the date on which the FY 2026 appropriation of $2,400,000 from the state GF to ADVS for replacement of the HVAC at the Tucson Veterans' Home reverts to the state GF, if ADVS is not awarded a federal grant for the project. Exempts the FYs 2026, 2027 and 2028 appropriations to ADOT for the design and construction of additional vehicle lanes on Interstate 10 between SR 85 and Citrus Road from lapsing.

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 review by the Joint Committee on Capital Review.

commerce; 2026-2027 (H.B. 4157/S.B. 1850) – Chapter 129

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to commerce necessary to implement the FY 2027 state budget:

Advanced Air Mobility – Requires the Arizona Commerce Authority, rather than the State Treasurer, to administer the Advanced Air Mobility Fund and removes the requirement to submit an expenditure plan to the Joint Committee on Capital Review before any expenditures are made from the Advanced Air Mobility Fund. Specifies that the purpose of the Advanced Air Mobility Fund is to allow the Office of Defense Innovation (Office) to contract with entities that advance Arizona's defense, aerospace, dual use technology and national security innovation ecosystem. The Office may not exercise regulatory authority over any public or private entity and must submit a comprehensive report to the Governor and Legislature on its activities and recommendations by September 1, 2029.

Arizona Competes Fund – Continues the Arizona Competes Fund for two years, until July 1, 2028, retroactive to June 30, 2026, and extends the $1,750,000 annual distribution from the State Lottery Fund to the Arizona Competes Fund through FY 2029, at which time the distribution reverts to $3,500,000.

Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions (DIFI) – Requires the Director of DIFI to annually assess and collect from foreign, alien and domestic insurers that hold an active certificate of authority, rather than only domestic insurers, prescribed fee amounts to administer DIFI's insurance operational functions. Financial Surveillance Fund monies are subject to legislative appropriation, rather than continuously appropriated and exempt from lapsing.

Miscellaneous – Increases the city, town and county population thresholds over which financial assistance from the Greater Arizona Development Authority is conditional on voter approval. Increase, from 14 percent of total prior-year deposits to 20 percent of total prior-year deposits, the Residential Contractors' Recovery Fund administrative expenditure cap. Allows the

Arizona Office of Tourism to accept and spend monies that are received as gifts, grants or donations and requires such monies to be held in a separate account of the Tourism Fund. Requires the Arizona Corporation Commission to use monies in the Securities Regulatory and Enforcement Fund for railroad safety.

criminal justice; 2026-2027 (H.B. 4158/S.B. 1851) – Chapter 130

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to criminal justice necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 state budget:

Repeals the Arizona Civil Rights Advisory Board within the Attorney General's Civil Rights Division and delays implementation of the Major Incident Division within the Department of Public Safety by one year, until July 1, 2028.

Retroactive to January 1, 2026, prohibits state agencies, boards, commissions and departments from using monies from any fund or source other than the Erroneous Convictions Fund to pay for reimbursements and compensation awarded for successful erroneous conviction claims. The state is not liable for any amount of reimbursement or compensation that exceeds the monies available in the Erroneous Convictions Fund.

Renames the *Peace Officer Training Equipment Fund* as the *Law Enforcement Equipment Fund* and requires the Law Enforcement Equipment Fund to be administered by the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, rather than the State Treasurer. Increases, from $2,500,000 to $12,500,000, the annual transfer from the Corrections Fund to the Corrections Building Renewal Fund.

Consolidates reporting requirements for the 90-day Transition Program and requires the report to be submitted by November 30, rather than July 31, of each year. By December 31, the Administrative Office of the Courts must compile an annual report on the enforcement and collection of various monetary obligations, broken down into specified categories and submit the report to the Governor, the Legislature, the Directors of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee and the Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting and the Secretary of State.

environment; 2026-2027 (H.B. 4159/S.B. 1852) – Chapter 131

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to the environment necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 state budget:

Groundwater Withdrawal Fees – Extends the moratorium on levying and collecting an annual groundwater withdrawal fee for Arizona water banking purposes in the Pinal Active Management Area (AMA) and 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 for four years, until January 1, 2031.

Funds – Extends the: 1) Arizona System Conservation Fund until April 1, 2031; and 2) the Temporary Groundwater and Irrigation Efficiency Projects Fund until April 1, 2033. 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 to pay administrative costs in FY 2027.

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) – Continues to require the Director of ADEQ to maintain fees in FY 2027 for vehicle emissions tests conducted in the Phoenix metropolitan area at the same emission fee level as of June 30, 2025. Caps the appropriation from the state General Fund to the Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund at $15,000,000 in FY 2027. Continues to authorize ADEQ to use up to $6,531,000 in FY 2027 from the Underground Storage Tank Revolving Fund for administrative costs and remediating sewage discharge issues in Arizona border areas.

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 2027.

health care; 2026-2027 (H.B. 4160/S.B. 1853) – Chapter 132

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to health care necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 state budget:

Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) – Requires AHCCCS to review specified state and federal information relating to lottery and gambling winnings, deaths, residency, employment and other changes in circumstances that may affect an individual's AHCCCS eligibility. AHCCCS may not accept self-attestation of residency or a federal exchange eligibility determination, subject to federal law, and must independently verify eligibility before enrollment. AHCCCS must submit to the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (U.S. CMS) by April 1, 2027, any necessary federal waiver requests to implement the eligibility review.

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. For FYs 2027 through 2029 and subject to the approval of a Section 1115 waiver, AHCCCS and its contractors must provide pilot coverage to qualified members for traditional healing services delivered through an urban Indian organization.

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, 2027. By December 31, 2027, 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.

Continues to require AHCCCS to prepare and issue an annual report, by January 31, 2027, to outlined officials regarding the costs and utilization of mental health medications during the previous contract year, including data relating to the cost, utilization and claim status for mental health medications.

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 2027 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 (JLBC).

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, 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, 2027, 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 2027.

Health Insurance Trust Fund Oversight Board (Board) – Establishes the five-member Board to oversee the state health plan by developing a strategic plan and approving all health insurance benefit programs for state officers and employees and prescribes Board membership and duties. The Board must consult with the Arizona Department of Administration as required, approve requests for certain proposal contracts beginning plan year 2028 and submit an annual report to the Governor and Legislature regarding the Board's activities and the financial condition and administration of the state employee health plan.

Arizona Rural Health Transformation Fund (Fund) – Establishes the Fund, administered by AHCCCS, and consisting of monies received through the Rural Health Transformation Program. Before the Executive Branch may spend any monies Fund, AHCCCS must hold three public meetings and solicit feedback throughout Arizona and submit a report to JLBC detailing its expenditure plan.

Department of Health Services (DHS) – Designates DHS as the lead agency to address Alzheimer's disease and related forms of dementia and requires DHS to establish a Dementia Services Program to coordinate statewide efforts and develop an Alzheimer's disease state plan.

Miscellaneous – Prohibits counties, cities and towns from using monies received through the final distribution of the One Arizona Distribution of Opioid Settlement Funds Agreement to provide monies to a nongovernmental organization for safer smoking equipment. Continues to exclude county contributions for costs of inpatient and in-custody competency restoration treatment and Proposition 204 administrative costs from county expenditure limitations.

higher education; 2026-2027 (H.B. 4161/S.B. 1854) – Chapter 133

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to higher education necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 state budget:

Community College District (CCD) Funding – Funds the FY 2027 operating state aid for CCDs and CCD science, technology, engineering and mathematics and workforce development programs as specified in the FY 2027 General Appropriations Act.

Arizona Veterinary Loan Assistance Program – Adds, to the eligibility criteria to participate in the Arizona Veterinary Loan Assistance Program, a requirement for an applicant to satisfactorily pass the licensing examination administered by the Arizona State Veterinary Medical Examining Board. Caps the amount of Arizona Veterinary Loan Assistance Fund (Fund) monies that a participating veterinarian may receive at the lessor of: 1) $200,000, rather than $100,000; or 2) an amount that is equal to the veterinarian's outstanding veterinary college educational loan balance. The Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) must award Fund monies to a veterinarian when ABOR determines that the veterinarian is an eligible applicant and has signed the prescribed work agreement, rather than when ABOR determines that the veterinarian has satisfied the terms of the prescribed work agreement at the conclusion of the veterinarian's four-year commitment. After each year that a veterinarian works in Arizona under the prescribed work agreement, ABOR must distribute to the veterinarian one-fourth of the total amount awarded.

ABOR Operating Budget Supplementation – Authorizes ABOR to retain monies from the public universities to supplement ABOR's operating budget which may not exceed $5,000,000 in any fiscal year unless expressly authorized by the Legislature.

University Funding – Continues, for FY 2027, 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.

human services; 2026-2027 (H.B. 4162/S.B. 1855) – Chapter 134

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to human services necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 state budget:

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) – Establishes the SNAP Fund until July 1, 2027, and consisting of continuously appropriated monies collected by the Department of Economic Security (DES) from federal deposits under SNAP.

Until July 1, 2027, when determining SNAP eligibility, DES must review its own data, outlined information from federal agencies and outlined information from the Arizona State Lottery, Arizona Department of Gaming, Department of Health Services and Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry. If DES receives reliable information indicating that an individual enrolled in SNAP has had a change in circumstances that may affect eligibility, DES must review the individual's case. On a monthly basis, DES must report to the Legislature outlined information regarding SNAP usage and, within 30 days after the final month's submission, an estimate of the payment error rate for FY 2026. By June 30, 2027, DES must submit a report to the Legislature detailing efforts to improve the quality and timeliness of eligibility determinations.

Out-of-School Time Grant Program (Grant Program) – Expands the Grant Program to include school-age children between 5 and 18 years old, rather than 5 and 12 years old. The Grant Program must reduce the cost of care or expand care at no cost to participating families. Until July 1, 2027, Grant Program monies may be used to support partnerships between school districts and outlined nonprofit organizations for capital expansion, facility improvements, construction, renovation and related capital expenditures on public buildings.

Speech and Audition Services Contracts – Beginning July 1, 2027, and subject to available appropriations, DES must contract with listening and spoken language providers in Arizona to provide services to eligible families with infants and toddlers who are deaf or hard of hearing. DES must refer eligible families to at least both contracted providers and the Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (ASDB). DES may adopt rules, policies and procedures to implement the provision of services and use up to 10 percent of appropriated monies for provider contracts for administrative costs.

Supplemental Early Childhood Listening and Spoken Language Services – Requires ASDB to transfer existing contracts and appropriations for supplemental early childhood listening and spoken language services to DES by November 1, 2026, and to develop a memorandum of understanding with DES that outlines the transfer. DES succeeds to the authority, powers, duties and responsibilities of ASDB relating to speech and audition services and all transferred contracts retain the same status with DES.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) – Requires DES to include specified fraud, overpayment and recovery statistics in the statutorily required SNAP and TANF spending report. Continues to require DES in FY 2027 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.

Miscellaneous – Increases the maximum compensation that a mobile home park tenant may collect from the Mobile Home Relocation Fund for relocating a mobile home to a new location within Arizona due to a rent increase or change in use from: 1) $12,500 to $22,500 for a single-section mobile home; and 2) $20,000 to $30,000 for a multi-section mobile home. Extends the Military Family Relief Fund and the Military Family Relief Tax Credit for five years, until December 31, 2031. For the first four months of each fiscal year, Housing Trust Fund monies must be awarded and prioritized for state matching monies for various federally funded programs.

K-12 education; 2026-2027 (H.B. 4163/S.B. 1856) – Chapter 135

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to K-12 education necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 state budget:

Basic State Aid – Increases the base level in FY 2027 from $5,113.26 to $5,215.53 per pupil. Increases transportation support level and charter additional assistance amounts by two percent for standard inflation. Updates TY 2026 qualifying tax rates to reflect annual truth-in-taxation rate adjustments.

Requires, until January 1, 2028, the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) to recalculate the basic state aid amount for the Alhambra Elementary School District in FY 2025 as a result of a change in assessed valuation of property within the district and increase the basic state aid amount for the Alhambra Elementary School District in FY 2027 by $852,200.

Property Proceeds Fund (Property Fund) – Establishes the Property Fund, administered by the Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (ASDB), and consisting of proceeds from the sale or lease of ASDB school buildings and grounds. ASDB must deposit all monies received for the sale or lease of buildings and grounds in the Property Fund by July 1, 2026, except as specified. In any fiscal year in which the Legislature appropriates monies from the Property Fund to ASDB, ASDB must prepare an expenditure plan for the monies and submit the plan to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee for review.

Before ASDB may sell school buildings or grounds, ASDB must: 1) determine the appraised value by ordering independent appraisals from at least two different firms; 2) submit the proposal to sell the property to the Joint Committee on Capital Review for review; and 3) sell the buildings or grounds pursuant to the statutory procedures for the disposition of real property by a state agency.

Child Sexual Abuse and Assault Awareness and Prevention Pilot Program (Pilot Program) – Establishes the Pilot Program within ADE and outlines administrative requirements for ADE that include: 1) gathering input from specified agencies, organizations and individuals for the Pilot Program curriculum; and 2) selecting organizations to develop the Pilot Program curriculum and to provide instructional modules for teachers, instruction for parents and printed copies of Pilot Program materials. By July 1, 2027, ADE must allow public schools to apply to participate and select six public schools from the applicants to participate in the Pilot Program during the 2027-2028 school year.

For teachers, the Pilot Program must include at least four hours of in-person, evidence-based instructional modules that may include: 1) training on child sexual abuse and assault prevention and responses; and 2) resources to further awareness and prevention of child sexual abuse and assault. For parents of students who are enrolled in a participating school, the Pilot Program must include at least three hours of in-person, evidence-based instruction that may include skills to recognize child sexual abuse and assault. A participating school may not require any parent to participate in the Pilot Program.

By October 1, 2028, each participating school must submit a report to ADE and the Department of Child Safety that includes specified information and data relating to the Pilot Program. Repeals the Pilot Program on January 1, 2029.

Miscellaneous – Allows ADE to use Failing Schools Tutoring Fund monies in FY 2027 for specified school improvements and requires ADE to report the proposed expenditures by September 1, 2026, as outlined.

local government; 2026-2027 (H.B. 4164/S.B. 1857) – Chapter 136

Makes the following session law changes relating to local governments necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 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 2027. By October 1, 2026, 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 2027.

revenue; 2026-2027 (H.B. 4165/S.B. 1858) – Chapter 137

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to revenue necessary to implement the FY 2027 state budget:

Extends, from June 30, 2028, to June 30, 2030, the requirement for the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) to assess, collect and transfer fees from specified entities to implement the ADOR Integrated Tax System Modernization Project and extends the ADOR Tax System Modernization Project Advisory Committee for two years, until January 1, 2032. Declares the Legislature's intent for FY 2027 that the share of fees for the ADOR Integrated Tax System Modernization Project is determined as outlined and that the assessment and transfers do not exceed: 1) $1,273,800 in total fees assessed on government entities; 2) $154,500 from additional education transaction privilege tax revenues; and 3) $34,400 in marijuana excise tax revenues.

state budget implementation; 2026-2027 (H.B. 4166/S.B. 1859) – Chapter 138

Makes the following statutory and session law changes necessary to implement the FY 2027 state budget:

Retroactive to July 1, 2026, continues to require any unrestricted federal monies received by the state in FY 2027 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 2027; 2) state that the Legislature is not required to appropriate monies to or transfer monies from the BSF in FYs 2027 and 2028; and 3) prohibit the State Treasurer from transferring any surplus monies from the BSF to the state GF in FY 2027.

Modifies the Arizona Department of Administration's (ADOA's) coordinated statewide plan for information technology (IT) to include the development of a statewide data strategic plan. Grants ADOA: 1) the ability to delegate authority or specific IT functions to any budget unit; and 2) the authority to enter into agreements with any state agency or political subdivision to furnish IT services. Any agreement to furnish IT services must provide for reimbursement to ADOA, unless monies have been appropriated by the Legislature for that purpose.

state properties; management; 2026-2027 (H.B. 4167/S.B. 1860) – Chapter 139

Makes the following session law changes relating to the management of state buildings necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 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 2027.

Within 10 days after the sale of state-owned real property within the Governmental Mall, the Arizona Department of Administration must submit a report to the Legislature and the Director of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee that includes the address, square footage and purchase price of the real property and the fund in which the proceeds from the sale are being deposited.

Authorizes the Legislative Council to provide for the placement of a commemorative plaque that recognizes the service of the Arizona America 250 Commission (Commission) in the Government Mall and allows the plaque to include the names and years of service of the Commission members. Repeals the authorization for the plaque on October 1, 2029.

taxation; omnibus; 2026-2027 (H.B. 4168/S.B. 1861) – Chapter 140

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to taxation necessary to implement the FY 2027 state budget:

Conformity – Retroactive to January 1, 2025, updates the statutory definition of *Internal Revenue Code* to include all federal provisions in effect as of January 1, 2026, with the specific adoption of all retroactive effective dates.

Income Tax – Increases the standard deduction retroactive to January 1, 2025. For taxable years beginning January 1, 2026, maintains the current $10,000 state and local taxes deduction, increases the Dependent Tax Credit and allows a taxpayer that takes the standard deduction to increase the deduction by an amount equal to the total amount of the taxpayer's charitable contributions, rather than up to 25 percent of qualifying contributions, and prescribes a charitable contribution deduction cap.

For only TY 2025, establishes an individual income tax subtraction for the amount received during the taxable year that is deducted under the federal income tax deduction for qualified passenger vehicle loan interest.

For taxable years beginning January 1, 2025, establishes individual income tax subtractions for the amount received during the taxable year that is deducted under the relevant federal income tax deduction for qualified tips, overtime compensation and senior income. For taxable years

beginning January 1, 2026, establishes individual income tax subtractions for a specified amount of distributions from a Trump Account and qualifying child and dependent care expenses.

For taxable years beginning January 1, 2026, establishes an addition to individual and corporate income tax for the amount of the special depreciation allowance for qualified production property allowed under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

Tax Credits – Eliminates the refundable portion of the individual and corporate Research and Development Tax Credit and repeals the insurance premium, individual and corporate Credit for New Employment and the corporate Credit for Pollution Control Equipment. Beginning in FY 2027, reduces the annual cap on the corporate and insurance premium Credit for Contributions to School Tuition Organizations for Low-Income Students from $135,000,000 to $110,000,000.

Computer Data Centers Moratorium – Beginning July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2029, the Arizona Commerce Authority may not accept applications for any new computer data center and no new computer data centers qualify for statutory tax relief.

Public Infrastructure – Increases the aggregate cap on the amount of state prime contracting transaction privilege tax (TPT) revenues that must be paid to cities, towns and counties for public infrastructure improvements for the benefit of a manufacturing facility and prescribes procedures that allow the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) to continuously process and allocate claims if the aggregate cap is met midyear. Modifies the public infrastructure project funding apportionment and required minimum capital investment, requires the participating city, town or county to provide a revenue analysis and requires ADOR to post on its website intergovernmental and development agreements relating to public infrastructure projects.

Unemployment Insurance – Establishes the Unemployment Insurance Operating Fund, administered by the Department of Economic Security (DES), to pay the administrative costs of Arizona's unemployment insurance program and requires employers to pay 3.15 percent of the employer's unemployment insurance contributions to DES each calendar quarter of 2027. Amounts above the first $8,000,000 are then deposited in the Unemployment Compensation Fund.

Miscellaneous – Modifies property tax exemptions and exemption requirements for veterans with service- or nonservice-connected disabilities and their surviving spouses. Requires Pinal County transportation excise tax monies remaining after refunding certain taxpayers to be held until appropriated by the Legislature. Requires the Rio Nuevo Multipurpose Facilities District Board of Directors to ensure that, from the amount of budgeted income that remains after paying operating expenses and debt service, at least 80 percent of grants and other financial support provided by the District in a fiscal year is provided for projects that generate TPT revenues.

transportation; 2026-2027 (H.B. 4169/S.B. 1862) – Chapter 141

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to transportation necessary to implement the FY 2027 state budget:

Requires the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to annually allocate and transfer $2,500,000 from the Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF) to the State Match Advantage for Rural Transportation Fund by June 15. Repeals the requirement for ADOT to annually allocate

and transfer $1,000,000 from HURF to the Economic Strength Project Fund and repeals the Economic Strength Project Fund on July 1, 2035.

LEGISLATION VETOED

~~Charlie Kirk highway~~ (NOW: Charlie Kirk Loop 202) (S.B. 1010/H.B. 4027) – VETOED

SEE THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.

roadable aircraft; registration; license plates (S.B. 1024) – VETOED

Beginning January 1, 2027, establishes registration and licensing requirements for a *roadable aircraft* which is an aircraft that has a mode of transportation that enables the aircraft to operate like a vehicle on a public highway and is manufactured to meet federal safety standards for motorcycles. Roadable aircraft must maintain both aircraft and vehicle registrations, unless the vehicle registration is cancelled because the aircraft is subject to an annual license tax for: 1) an aircraft that is in storage or being repaired; 2) a salvage aircraft that is in storage or being restored; or 3) a maintenance aircraft owned by a nonresident. To register a roadable aircraft, the Arizona Department of Transportation must combine the motor vehicle title and registration processes with the aircraft registration process as best as practicable, record the N-number license marking and issue a motorcycle-sized license plate. Adds roadable aircraft to the list of motor vehicles for which a class D driver license is valid for operation.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1024 imposes an unfunded mandate and does not include an appropriate regulatory framework.

budget unit; vacant positions; reporting (S.B. 1056/H.B. 2688) – 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 ABOR's jurisdiction 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 eliminated positions.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1056 does not accurately reflect the state's merit-based hiring processes.

~~light rail expansion; participation; prohibition~~ (NOW: light rail expansion; feasibility review) (S.B. 1332) – VETOED

Requires the Auditor General, in coordination with an independent transportation research entity, to conduct a comprehensive feasibility review of light rail expansion in Maricopa County and submit a report on the findings to the Governor and Legislature by December 31, 2027. The

comprehensive feasibility review may not presume the superiority of any mode of transit and must contain outlined information.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1332 is costly, unnecessary and overlooks the unique benefits of all transportation modes.

~~municipalities; counties; recycling; prohibition~~ (NOW: Charlie Kirk memorial; special plate) (S.B. 1439/H.B. 2112) – VETOED

Requires the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to issue a conservative grassroots network special plate if a $32,000 implementation fee is paid to ADOT by December 31, 2026. Requires $17 of the $25 special plate fee collected from each special plate to be deposited into the Conservative Grassroots Network 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.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1439 inserts politics into a function of government that should remain nonpartisan.

air mobility fund; border security (S.B. 1457) – VETOED

Adds, to the allowable uses of the Advanced Air Mobility Fund, purchasing advanced air mobility vehicles for border security purposes, with priority given to counties located along the state's international border.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1457 appears to cater to a particular vendor without clear demand or need from law enforcement.

~~commercial vehicles; operator; lawful presence~~ (NOW: nondomiciled commercial drivers license; validity) (S.B. 1511) – VETOED

SEE THE MILITARY AFFAIRS & BORDER SECURITY COMMITTEE.

ultralight vehicles; definition (S.B. 1549) – VETOED

Defines *ultralight vehicle* as a vehicle that: 1) is used or intended to be used for manned operation in the air by a single occupant; 2) does not have a United States or foreign airworthiness certificate; and 3) meets specific weight, fuel capacity and speed requirements. Includes *ultralight vehicles* in the definition of *advanced air mobility*.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1549 statutorily defines *ultralight vehicle* but fails to include federal safety standards for operating these vehicles.

driver license instruction permit; age (H.B. 2003) – VETOED

Beginning December 1, 2026, lowers the minimum age of eligibility for an instruction permit for a class D, G or M license from 15 years and 6 months old to 15 years old and increases, from 6 months to 9 months, the duration of time that a minor must hold a class G or M instruction permit before the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) may issue a class G or M license. Increases the required driving practice hours. If a person is 15 years and 6 months old and holds a valid instruction permit on November 30, 2026, the person is not required to hold the instruction permit beyond 6 months to be eligible for a class G or M license. Designates this legislation as the *Juvenile Unlocking Driver Education (JUDE) Act*.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that Arizona's current instruction permit age is already below the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's recommended age of 16 years old and that H.B. 2003 reduces the minimum age to 15 years old for motorcycle instruction permits which will not enhance roadway safety among teen drivers.

private towing carriers; regulation; rates (H.B. 2305) – VETOED

Rates for Private Towing Carriers – Declares the regulation of towing rates for motor vehicles that are towed from private property by private towing carriers as a matter of statewide concern and preempts further regulation by a city, town or county. Prescribes a timeframe for a city, town or county that has regulated the rate for private towing from private property as of January 1, 2026, to update the rates to the market standards or the rates and fees prescribed by the Department of Public Safety (DPS) tow service agreement.

City and Town Specific Private Towing Requirements – Outlines signage requirements to notify a motor vehicle driver of information relating to private towing from private property. A private towing carrier must document the nature of a private parking violation by using date and time stamped digital photography or video before mechanically connecting a motor vehicle to the private towing carrier. A private towing carrier must notify the appropriate law enforcement agency within one hour of mechanically connecting a motor vehicle to the carrier for a tow from private property without the vehicle owner's permission. Agreements between law enforcement agencies and private towing carriers for law enforcement-initiated towing services are exempt from the private towing requirements.

County, City and Town Private Towing Requirements and Penalties – Requires a private towing carrier to release an impounded motor vehicle to the owner or the owner's agent who proves ownership of the vehicle and pays the charges for towing and impounding the vehicle. A private towing carrier may not require immediate payment as a condition to release the vehicle.

A private property owner may not accept or agree to accept compensation for a provided towing service. A private towing carrier or private parking facility that violates the private property towing requirements is liable to the vehicle owner for damages. A violation of the private towing requirements in a city or town is a class 2 misdemeanor.

Heavy-Duty Truck Towing Study Committee (Study Committee) – Establishes the six-member Study Committee to review prescribed practices pertaining to towing vehicles

weighing at least 26,000 pounds from private property and outlines Study Committee membership. The Study Committee must submit a report on the Study Committee's activities to the Governor and Legislature by June 30, 2027. Terminates the Study Committee on January 1, 2028.

DPS Towing and Compliance Enforcement Unit – By December 31, 2026, DPS must submit a report to the Legislature on establishing and administering a towing and compliance enforcement unit within DPS to regulate private towing carriers in Arizona.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that she has already signed S.B. 1366 which establishes a study committee within DPS to examine towing and impoundment practices for public property and that before establishing another study committee focused on towing on private property, it is important to review the findings and recommendations from the initial study.

artificial intelligence service; disclosures; requirements (H.B. 2311) – VETOED

Beginning October 1, 2027, requires each operator of a publicly available conversational artificial intelligence (AI) service to clearly and conspicuously disclose to each account holder that the account holder is interacting with a conversational AI service and outlines requirements and prohibitions regarding minor account holders, age-verification-related data collection and conversational AI service responses to suicidal ideation or self-harm prompts.

Each publicly available conversational AI service operator (operator) must use a persistent visible disclaimer and a disclaimer at the beginning of each conversational AI session that appears every three hours during a continuous interaction to disclose to each account holder that the person is interacting with a conversational AI service. Outlines reasonable measures that each operator must implement to prevent a conversational AI service from performing specified functions.

For minor account holders, each operator must institute reasonable measures to prevent the conversational AI service from generating statements that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the person is interacting with a human. Tools for managing a minor account holder's privacy and account settings must be offered to the minor account holder and the minor's parent or guardian if the minor is under 13 years old or as appropriate based on relevant risks.

An operator may not condition access to a conversational AI service on the use of a digital age identification system, unless required by federal law. An age assurance method may collect only the minimum amount of data that is reasonably necessary. Outlines prohibitions on the use of data that is collected solely to comply with the conversational AI service requirements, including the prohibition on a government agency from compelling an operator to disclose personal or age-related data, unless the disclosure is required by a warrant.

An operator who violates the prescribed conversational AI service requirements and prohibitions is subject to an injunction and is liable for specified damages or penalties. The Attorney General may not expand the conversational AI service requirements and the prescribed conversational AI service requirements may not be used to implement a system that tracks an account holder's online activity.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2311 prohibits families from bringing lawsuits, limits damages to families and restricts the state's ability to bring actions.

artificial intelligence; state agencies; rules (H.B. 2592) – VETOED

Requires the Director of the Arizona Department of Administration (Director) to require each budget unit to: 1) identify opportunities to implement artificial intelligence (AI) system solutions that reduce administrative burdens; 2) eliminate regulations that unnecessarily restrict AI innovation; 3) streamline procurement processes to enable the adoption of AI; 4) review existing regulations that affect AI system development; and 5) modify or eliminate any AI system regulation that creates unreasonable barriers to AI innovation. A budget unit may not adopt rules that specifically regulate AI systems or computational resources, unless the: 1) Legislature provides express statutory delegation to address a specific harm; 2) rule is the least restrictive to achieve the statutory objective; 3) benefit of the rule outweighs the impact on innovation and competition; and 4) rule does not create a barrier to market entry or an advantage to an incumbent firm. By December 1, the Director must annually report to the Governor and Legislature on the implementation and effectiveness of AI systems by budget units during the preceding fiscal year.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2592 is redundant of actions that the state is already taking and will create barriers to the efficient and responsible adoption of AI.

driver license; enhanced; mobile; prohibition (H.B. 2957) – VETOED

Requires the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to continue to make available to Arizona residents driver and nonoperating identification licenses that are not compliant with the federal REAL ID Act and requires ADOT to ensure that each person who applies for a driver or nonoperating identification license is informed that the person may choose a REAL ID or non-REAL ID license. Any communication used to describe or promote the REAL ID must also state that using a REAL ID-compliant license is voluntary. Prohibits ADOT from retaining any copies of source documents used to verify a person's identity when issuing a non-REAL ID license and prohibits any information that is collected from being accessible to, shared with or stored in any interstate, federal or international database system, with certain exceptions. Requires a physical driver or nonoperating identification license to be accepted for all identification purposes.

Conditions the repeal of the requirements relating to issuing REAL ID licenses and compliance measures on: 1) the repeal of division B of the REAL ID Act; 2) the modification of the federal definition of *official purpose* for the REAL ID driver license and identification card; or 3) a change to federal laws or rules that prohibits state issuance of non-REAL ID compliant driver licenses or nonoperating identification licenses. ADOT must notify the Director of the Legislative Council of the date on which any of the outlined conditions for repeal are met.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2957 does not strengthen required federal identification-verification safeguards.

DPS; legal representation; appropriation (H.B. 2993) – VETOED

Appropriates $6,400,000 from the Consumer Protection-Consumer Fraud Revolving Fund in FY 2026 to the Department of Public Safety (DPS). Exempts DPS from the prohibition on state agencies employing legal counsel and spending monies for legal services.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2993 would divert monies from consumer protection programs and the preferred funding source for the supplemental appropriation to DPS is the Highway Patrol Fund.

attorney general; legal counsel; exemption (H.B. 4049) – VETOED

SEE THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.

VETOED FY 2026 – FY 2027 STATE BUDGET PACKAGES

2026-2027; general appropriations act. (H.B. 4138/S.B. 1831) – VETOED

The FY 2027 budget includes spending in the total amount of $17.95 billion and a cash balance of $10.5 million. The vetoed budget includes ongoing and one-time revenues of $17.97 billion.

The budget includes FY 2027 (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 (SFD) – Building Renewal Grants	183.3
ADOA – SFD – New Construction Formula Savings	(20.2)
Department of Child Safety (DCS) – Congregate Care Funding	36.9
DCS – Continue and Expand Extended Foster Care Coaching	8.2
Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR) – 4% Correctional Officer Stipend	21.4
Arizona Criminal Justice Commission – Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Federal Funds Backfill	2.25
Department of Economic Security (DES) – VOCA Federal Funds Backfill	11.5
DES – Child Care Funding	44.8
DES – Developmental Disabilities High Need Client Supplement	17.9
Arizona Department of Education (ADE) – Formula – FY 2026	(79.1)
ADE – Unused Land Trust Balances	(8.0)
ADE – Fund 3rd Year Low-Income Weight Increase	37.0
ADE – Fund 3rd Year Additional Assistance Increase	29.0
ADE – No School Meal Copay for 130-185% Federal Poverty Level	2.0
Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections – 4% Correctional Officer Stipend	0.5

	State GF $ (in Millions)*
Department of Public Safety (DPS) – VOCA Federal Funds Backfill	9.3
DPS – Highway Patrol Operating Expenses – Highway Patrol Fund – FY 2026	4.75
State Employee Health Insurance Funding	232.0
Health Insurance Employee Premium Increase Savings	(3.6)

**Figures are rounded.*

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

	State GF $ (in Millions)*
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System – Formula Adjustments	(42.0)
Arizona Commerce Authority – Eliminate Annual Competes Fund Deposit	(0.5)
ADE – Formula	(92.1)
Arizona Office of Tourism – Eliminate Agency General Fund Appropriation	(8.2)
5% Statewide Lump Sum Reduction – excludes ADCRR, DCS and DPS	(99.2)
Eliminate Rio Nuevo Transportation Privilege Tax Diversion	(19.0)
Statewide Retirement Cost Adjustment	(3.8)

**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 – SFD

- Allows the SFD to use the unencumbered balance of $20,622,600 in the New School Facilities Fund for facilities and land costs for school districts that received SFD final approval by December 15, 2025.

Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (ASDB)

- Requires ASDB, by September 1, 2026, to submit a report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) that details the schools' budgetary and operational changes since FY 2026.

ADE

- Requires ADE to distribute monies for district additional assistance and charter additional assistance based proportionally on the additional assistance funding received by each district in FY 2027.

- 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.

- 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.

Secretary of State (SOS)

- Requires the SOS, within 15 days after the last day of each month, to report to the Director of JLBC and the Director of the Governor's Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting on the previous month's expenditures and fiscal year-to-date expenditures for election services.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 4138, and this version of the FY 2027 budget as a whole, would cause Arizona to default on its debt obligations, endanger vulnerable children, cut public safety funding and provide tax breaks for billionaires, data centers and special interests.

2026-2027; amusements. (H.B. 4139/S.B. 1832) – VETOED

Makes the following session law changes relating to amusements necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 state budget:

Continues to require the Arizona Department of Gaming (ADG), in FY 2027, 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 peri-mutuel pools from in-state and out-of-state live and simulcast races. Continues to authorize the ADG, for race meetings in 2026 and 2027, 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.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 4139, and this version of the FY 2027 state budget as a whole, would cause Arizona to default on its debt obligations, endanger vulnerable children, cut public safety funding and provide tax breaks for billionaires, data centers and special interests.

2026-2027; state budget implementation. (H.B. 4140/S.B. 1833) – VETOED

Makes the following session law changes necessary to implement the FY 2027 state budget:

Retroactive to July 1, 2026, continues to require any unrestricted federal monies received by the state in FY 2027 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 2027; 2) state that the Legislature is not required to appropriate monies to or

transfer monies from the BSF in FYs 2027 and 2028; and 3) prohibit the State Treasurer from transferring any surplus monies from the BSF to the state GF in FY 2027.

Requires the Governor's executive budget submission to the Legislature for FY 2028 to include: 1) a full accounting of monies available for expenditure from the government efficiency and reform initiative savings; 2) a report that demonstrates how the government efficiency and reform initiative savings target of $100 million will be accomplished; and 3) a comprehensive list of component initiatives, by savings amount, for each affected agency.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 4140, and this version of the FY 2027 state budget as a whole, would cause Arizona to default on its debt obligations, endanger vulnerable children, cut public safety funding and provide tax breaks for billionaires, data centers and special interests.

capital outlay; 2026-2027; appropriations. (H.B. 4141/S.B. 1834) – VETOED

Capital outlay expenditures account for $0 of FY 2027 state budget expenditures.

Building Renewal – Appropriates $48,220,300 in FY 2027 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)	$16,800,000
Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR)	ADCRR Building Renewal Fund	$5,864,300
Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD)	AZGFD Fund	$1,932,900
Arizona State Lottery Commission	State Lottery Fund	$237,800
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. ADCRR may not spend building renewal appropriations on personal services or overhead expenses related to managing funded projects.

Statewide Highway Construction – Appropriates $432,663,000 from the SHF in FY 2027 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 2027 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 $29,048,900 from the State Aviation Fund in FY 2027 to ADOT for airport planning, construction, development and improvements. Appropriates balances and collections in the State Aviation Fund that exceed the amount appropriated by the FY 2027 General Appropriations Act and Capital Outlay Budget Reconciliation Bill to ADOT for authorized purposes. Prescribes reporting requirements for aviation grant awards and distributions.

Miscellaneous – Delays, from FY 2028 to FY 2029, the $25,000,000 appropriation from the state GF to the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services to establish a veterans' home facility in the northwestern portion of the state. Appropriates $26,300,000 from the state General Fund (state GF) in FY 2029 to the State Match Advantage for Rural Transportation Fund. Transfers, by June 30, 2026, the FY 2026 $2,500,000 reduction to the appropriation to rehabilitate pavement along U.S. Route 191 between Armory Road and East Safford from the SHF to the state GF for the support and maintenance of state agencies.

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 review by the Joint Committee on Capital Review.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 4141, and this version of the FY 2027 state budget as a whole, would cause Arizona to default on its debt obligations, endanger vulnerable children, cut public safety funding and provide tax breaks for billionaires, data centers and special interests.

2026-2027; commerce. (H.B. 4142/S.B. 1835) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to commerce necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 budget:

Eliminates the annual State Lottery Fund allocation to the Arizona Competes Fund.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 4142, and this version of the FY 2027 state budget as a whole, would cause Arizona to default on its debt obligations, endanger vulnerable children, cut public safety funding and provide tax breaks for billionaires, data centers and special interests.

2026-2027; criminal justice. (H.B. 4143/S.B. 1836) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory changes relating to criminal justice necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 state budget:

Requires the Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry to provide an annual report on bed capacity to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee by November 1.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 4143, and this version of the FY 2027 budget as a whole, would cause Arizona to default on its debt obligations, endanger vulnerable children, cut public safety funding and provide tax breaks for billionaires, data centers and special interests.

2026-2027; environment. (H.B. 4144/S.B. 1837) – VETOED

Makes the following session law changes relating to the environment necessary to implement the FY 2027 state budget:

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) – Continues to require the Director of ADEQ to maintain fees in FY 2027 for vehicle emissions tests conducted in the Phoenix metropolitan area at the same emission fee level as of June 30, 2025. Caps the appropriation from the state General Fund to the Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund at $15,000,000 in FY 2027. Continues to authorize ADEQ to use up to $6,531,000 in FY 2027 from the Underground Storage Tank Revolving Fund for administrative costs and remediating sewage discharge issues Arizona border areas.

Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) – 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 administrative costs in FY 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 2027.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 4144, and this version of the FY 2027 state budget as a whole, would cause Arizona to default on its debt obligations, endanger vulnerable children, cut public safety funding and provide tax breaks for billionaires, data centers and special interests.

2026-2027; health care. (H.B. 4145/S.B. 1838) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to health care necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 state budget:

Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) – Directs ADOA to increase health insurance premium contributions by 10 percent in plan year 2027 for state officers and employees. The Legislature intends for ADOA to further increase state employee health insurance premium contributions by an additional 5 percent in each of plan years 2028 and 2029.

Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) – Beginning January 1, 2027, requires 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. At least quarterly, AHCCCS must redetermine the eligibility of able-bodied adult members who are not Americans Indians or Alaska Natives. 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, 2027, 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 a subsequent request for approval within 12 months after each denial. Prescribes requirements for AHCCCS and qualified hospitals when making a presumptive eligibility determination.

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, 2027. By December 31, 2027, 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.

Continues to require AHCCCS to prepare and issue an annual report, by January 31, 2027, to outlined officials regarding the costs and utilization of mental health medications during the previous contract year, including data relating to the cost, utilization and claim status for mental health medications.

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 2027 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, 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, 2027, 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 2027.

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. 4145, and this version of the FY 2027 state budget as a whole, would cause Arizona to default on its debt obligations, endanger vulnerable children, cut public safety funding and provide tax breaks for billionaires, data centers and special interests.

2026-2027; higher education. (H.B. 4146/S.B. 1839) – VETOED

Makes the following session law changes relating to higher education necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 state budget:

Funds the FY 2027 operating state aid for community college districts (CCDs) and CCD science, technology, engineering and mathematics and workforce development programs as specified in the FY 2027 General Appropriations Act.

Continues, for FY 2027, 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. 4146, and this version of the FY 2027 state budget as a whole, would cause Arizona to default on its debt obligations, endanger vulnerable children, cut public safety funding and provide tax breaks for billionaires, data centers and special interests.

2026-2027; human services. (H.B. 4147/S.B. 1840) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory changes relating to human services necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 budget:

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Payment Error Rate – Requires the Department of Economic Security (DES), by December 30, 2030, to reduce the SNAP payment error rate to no more than three percent and establishes reporting requirements and procedures for corrective action by the Auditor General (OAG). Beginning in FY 2027, DES must submit a quarterly report to the Legislature detailing DES's monthly progress towards reducing the payment

error rate. If DES fails to meet the annual interim targets or final target, DES must submit a corrective action plan to the Legislature and pay 50 percent of any federal liabilities imposed due to the excess payment error rate. If DES fails to comply with the corrective plan, DES funding must be reduced by 10 percent until resolved. The OAG must complete a special audit by November 15, 2027, to determine what factors contributed to the payment error rate and to recommend actions to reduce the payment error rate. DES must implement the OAG's recommendations within 12 months, unless the recommendations are waived by the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. The OAG may request that DES submit a written status report regarding implementation of the special audit recommendations. Repeals the SNAP payment error rate requirements on January 1, 2033.

SNAP Fund – Establishes the SNAP Fund consisting of continuously appropriated monies collected by DES from federal deposits under SNAP.

SNAP Eligibility and Enrollment – Prohibits DES from establishing a gross income limit of more than 185 percent of the federal poverty level for SNAP recipients who are in categorically eligible households. Requires 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. If DES receives information indicating that an individual enrolled in SNAP has had a change in circumstance that may affect eligibility, DES must review the individual's case.

Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) Transactions – Requires DES to use data from an EBT card to identify any individual who has made purchases exclusively out-of-state over a 90-day period and contact the identified individual within 30 days to determine whether the individual resides in Arizona. If the individual does not reside in Arizona, DES must terminate assistance to the individual, including SNAP benefits, within 30 days after contact and refer the individual to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the district of Arizona within 15 days after termination.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) – Continues to require DES in FY 2027 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.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 4147, and this version of the FY 2027 state budget as a whole, would cause Arizona to default on its debt obligations, endanger vulnerable children, cut public safety funding and provide tax breaks for billionaires, data centers and special interests.

2026-2027; K-12 education. (H.B. 4148/S.B. 1841) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to K-12 education necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 state budget:

Basic State Aid – Increases the base level in FY 2027 from $5,113.26 to $5,215.53 per pupil. Increases transportation support levels and charter additional assistance amounts by two

percent for standard inflation. Updates TY 2026 qualifying tax rates to reflect annual truth-in-taxation rate adjustments.

Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (ASDB) – Establishes the Property Proceeds Fund (Property Fund), administered by ASDB, and consisting of proceeds from the sale or lease of ASDB school buildings and grounds. ASDB must deposit all monies received for the sale or lease of building and grounds in the Property Fund, except as specified. In any fiscal year in which the Legislature appropriates monies from the Property Fund to ASDB, ASDB must prepare an expenditure plan for the monies and submit the plan to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee for review.

Before ASDB may sell school buildings or grounds, ASDB must: 1) determine the appraised value by ordering independent appraisals from at least two different firms; 2) submit the proposal to sell the property to the Joint Committee on Capital Review for review; and 3) sell the property to the highest and most responsible bidder at a public sale, except that ASDB may not accept a bid that is lower than the appraised value.

Miscellaneous – Allows the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) to use Failing Schools Tutoring Fund monies in FY 2027 for specified school improvements and requires ADE to report the proposed expenditures by September 1, 2026, as outlined.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 4148, and this version of the FY 2027 state budget as a whole, would cause Arizona to default on its debt obligations, endanger vulnerable children, cut public safety funding and provide tax breaks for billionaires, data centers and special interests.

2026-2027; local government. (H.B. 4149/S.B. 1842) – VETOED

Makes the following session law changes relating to local governments necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 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 2027. By October 1, 2026, 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 2027.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 4149, and this version of the FY 2027 state budget as a whole, would cause Arizona to default on its debt obligations, endanger vulnerable children, cut public safety funding and provide tax breaks for billionaires, data centers and special interests.

management; state properties; 2026-2027. (H.B. 4150/S.B. 1843) – VETOED

Makes the following session law change relating to the management of state buildings necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 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 2027.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 4150, and this version of the FY 2027 state budget as a whole, would cause Arizona to default on its debt obligations, endanger vulnerable children, cut public safety funding and provide tax breaks for billionaires, data centers and special interests.

2026-2027; revenue. (H.B. 4151/S.B. 1844) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to revenue necessary to implement the FY 2027 state budget:

Extends, from June 30, 2028, to June 30, 2029, the requirement for the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) to assess, collect and transfer fees from specified entities to implement the ADOR Integrated Tax System Modernization Project. Declares the Legislature's intent for FY 2027 that the share of fees for the ADOR Integrated Tax System Modernization Project is determined as outlined and that the assessment and transfers do not exceed: 1) $6,286,300 in total fees assessed on government entities; 2) $762,300 from additional education transaction privilege tax revenues; and 3) $169,800 in marijuana excise tax revenues.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 4151, and this version of the FY 2027 state budget as a whole, would cause Arizona to default on its debt obligations, endanger vulnerable children, cut public safety funding and provide tax breaks for billionaires, data centers and special interests.

2026-2027; taxation; omnibus. (H.B. 4152/S.B. 1845) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory and session law changes relating to taxation necessary to implement the FY 2027 state budget:

Conformity – Retroactive to January 1, 2025, updates the statutory definition of *Internal Revenue Code* to include all federal provisions in effect as of January 1, 2026, with the specific adoption of all retroactive effective dates.

Income Tax – Replaces the Arizona-specific standard deduction by coupling with the federal standard deduction, maintains the current $10,000 state and local taxes deduction and increases the Dependent Tax Credit. For taxable years beginning January 1, 2026, allows a taxpayer that takes the standard deduction to increase the deduction by an amount equal to the total amount of the taxpayer's charitable contributions, rather than up to 25 percent of qualifying contributions, and prescribes a charitable contribution deduction cap.

For only TY 2025, establishes individual income tax subtractions for the amount received during the taxable year that is deducted under the relevant federal income tax deduction for qualified senior income and passenger vehicle loan interest.

For taxable years beginning January 1, 2025, establishes individual income tax subtractions for the amount received during the taxable year that is deducted under the relevant federal income tax deduction for qualified tips and overtime compensation. For taxable years beginning January 1, 2026, establishes individual income tax subtractions for a specified amount of distributions from a Trump Account, qualifying child and dependent care expenses and contributions to or distributions from certain retirement accounts.

Tax Credits – Eliminates the refundable portion of the individual and corporate Research and Development Tax Credit and repeals the following tax credits: 1) the insurance premium, individual and corporate Credit for New Employment; 2) the individual Credit for Solar Energy Devices; 3) the individual and corporate Renewable Energy Production Tax Credit; and 4) the corporate Credit for Pollution Control Equipment.

Rio Nuevo Multipurpose Facility District – Repeals the requirement for the State Treasurer to divert state transaction privilege tax (TPT) revenues each month to the Rio Nuevo Multipurpose Facility District and repeals the TPT deduction and use tax exemption for the sale or lease of solar energy devices.

Scholarship Graning Organizations (SGOs) – Declares the state's election to participate in the federal tax credit for individuals who make qualified contributions to SGOs and requires the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) to administer the credit to ensure the state is eligible to participate beginning January 1, 2027. A nonprofit that meets specified requirements may apply to ADOR for certification as an SGO and ADOR must certify a qualifying nonprofit as an SGO. ADOR must annually submit a list of certified SGOs to the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury and, beginning January 1, 2027, certified SGOs may begin providing scholarships to eligible students for any qualified education expenses.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 4152, and this version of the FY 2027 state budget as a whole, would cause Arizona to default on its debt obligations, endanger vulnerable children, cut public safety funding and provide tax breaks for billionaires, data centers and special interests.

2026-2027; transportation. (H.B. 4153/S.B. 1846) – VETOED

Makes the following statutory changes relating to transportation necessary to reconcile the FY 2027 state budget:

Requires the Arizona Department of Transportation, by July 31, to submit an annual 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. 4153, and this version of the FY 2027 state budget as a whole, would cause Arizona to default on its debt obligations, endanger vulnerable children, cut public safety funding and provide tax breaks for billionaires, data centers and special interests.

Education Committee

Senator Hildy Angius, Chairperson



Mason Holler, Research Analyst
Kati Pratt, Assistant Research Analyst
Sydney Maravillas, Intern

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

DCS caseworkers; schools; required disclosures (S.B. 1126) – Chapter 28

Requires a school, on request by a Department of Child Safety (DCS) caseworker and in accordance with federal law, to: 1) identify any person who has withdrawn a pupil from the school and any school that has requested a pupil's educational records; and 2) provide any other requested information or records relating to a pupil who is, or was, enrolled at the school. A public or private school may not prohibit a school employee, contractor or volunteer from speaking to a DCS caseworker who is investigating an allegation of abuse or neglect.

accommodation schools; high school equivalency (S.B. 1166) – Chapter 16

Authorizes a county school superintendent to offer high school equivalency (HSE) preparation instruction through an accommodation school to students enrolled in the accommodation school in grades 11 or 12, rather than only grade 12. A student who participates in the HSE preparation instruction must be at least 16 years old.

private postsecondary education; nondomiciled institutions (S.B. 1210) – Chapter 158

Establishes a separate out-of-state registration process for specified private postsecondary education institutions (nondomiciled institutions). The out-of-state registration requirements apply to any nondomiciled institution: 1) regardless of accreditation status; 2) whether or not the institution offers vocational or degree programs; 3) that enrolls Arizona residents in fully online programs; and 4) that is not an active participant in the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (NCSARA). An out-of-state registration is valid for one year and must be renewed annually through an application approved by the Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education (Board).

Outlines procedures and requirements for the out-of-state registration application. If a nondomiciled institution is not accredited, the institution must submit additional specified information for review and approval by the Board and provide a notification to students who are Arizona residents that contains prescribed information relating to the institution's registration and the Board. A nondomiciled institution must pay a fee in an amount set by the Board for both an initial out-of-state registration and a registration renewal.

Outlines notification and administrative requirements for nondomiciled institutions with an out-of-state registration, including requirements to maintain student transcripts and enrollment and financing agreements. Prohibits a person from providing a private vocational program through online distance education to Arizona residents if the nondomiciled institution is not a participant in the NCSARA, unless the person holds an out-of-state registration issued by the Board. Removes the exemption from the requirement for nondomiciled institutions to pay Student Tuition Recovery Fund assessments for students enrolled in distance learning instruction and the prohibition on such students submitting a claim to the Student Tuition Recovery Fund.

~~ABOR; foreign countries; restrictions; penalties~~ (NOW: ABOR; research security policy) (S.B. 1327) – Chapter 170

Requires the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) to require each public university to establish, adopt and post on its website a research security policy that safeguards the university's research, promotes a security culture, furthers national security interests and mitigates potential threats to the university's research from foreign adversary nations. An adopted research security policy must comply with applicable legal, regulatory and contractual standards and requirements and include processes to regularly update the policy and identify and address compliance concerns.

By October 1 of each year, ABOR must submit a report to the Governor, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives that includes specified information relating to the adopted research security policies, including the total number of grants, gifts or donations each public university received from a foreign country in the preceding year that exceeded $250,000.

credit enhancement eligibility board; continuation (S.B. 1422) – Chapter 226

Continues the Credit Enhancement Eligibility Board for 10 years, until July 1, 2036, retroactive to July 1, 2026.

WICHE; continuation (S.B. 1423) – Chapter 227

Continues the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education for 10 years, until July 1, 2036, retroactive to July 1, 2026.

~~classical learning; tests; examinations~~ (NOW: school districts; insurance quotes) (S.B. 1497) – Chapter 231

Requires a school district governing board (governing board) that employs at least 300 employees and establishes a self-insurance program to obtain quotes for coverage and services from authorized service providers at least once during every four-year period to determine whether comparable coverage and services are available at a more favorable price. At least 60 days before the end of the current benefit program year, each insurer or other entity that supports a school district's self-insurance program must provide prescribed information to the school district in an electronic, machine-readable format, including: 1) the monthly enrollment counts for each plan option; 2) the monthly total claims paid for the immediately preceding two calendar years; 3) a detailed report on enrollees whose total claims paid exceeds $50,000 in the current year or immediately preceding four years; and 4) detailed prescription drug data for the immediately preceding 12-month period. A governing board may not renew coverage or services from any person that fails to provide timely, accurate and complete information as prescribed.

schools; prohibition; unmanned aircraft (S.B. 1627) – Chapter 236

SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.

age-appropriate resources; inappropriate contact; schools (S.B. 1711) – Chapter 188

Requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to develop a list of recommended resources relating to age-appropriate education on the prevention and recognition of inappropriate contact, including sexual contact, and requires each public school to make resources from the list available to all students and parents. The Arizona Department of Education must post the list on its website and make at least one resource from the list available to public schools for each age group. The SBE must establish a process that allows public schools and members of the public to recommend resources for addition to the list.

~~educator salary increases; school reporting~~ (NOW: instructional expenses; operational spending; enforcement) (S.C.R. 1032/H.C.R. 2007)

Subject to voter approval, statutorily requires each school district that has a student count of at least 7,500 students or that operates a school in a county with a population of more than 500,000 persons to spend at least 60 percent of the school district's operational spending on direct instructional expenses. The Auditor General (OAG) must define *direct instructional expenses* and *operational spending* for the purpose of determining whether a school district is fulfilling this requirement. Beginning in FY 2028, a school district that spends less than 60 percent of operational spending on direct instructional expenses must increase the school district's portion spent on direct instructional expenses by at least 0.5 percent each year until the school district is in compliance.

If the OAG determines that a school district did not dedicate 60 percent of operational spending to direct instructional expenses or increase operational spending on direct instructional expenses by 0.5 percent annually and the school district receives Classroom Site Fund (CSF) monies, the Arizona Department of Education must reduce the school district's CSF allocation for the budget year by prescribed percentages that are based on the number of years the school district is in noncompliance. Allows the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) to waive the reduction to the school district's CSF allocation if the duration of the waiver does not exceed one year. The SPI may not issue more than two waivers for a school district during any 10-year period, with exceptions. 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.

statewide assessment; testing window; revisions (H.B. 2032) – Chapter 75

Increases the maximum statewide assessment testing window to six, rather than four, consecutive school weeks, and prohibits the testing window for pupils in grades three through eight from beginning before the second week of April, unless it is an alternative assessment administered pursuant to the pupil's Section 504 plan or Individualized Education Program. Removes the authorization for the Arizona Department of Education to adjust the statewide assessment testing window in academic years that the State Board of Education (SBE) is revising or establishing new proficiency levels.

Delays the date by which the SBE must annually require, in the contract for the statewide assessment, that test scores and data be received by local education agencies to May 26, rather than May 15 for the third grade reading portion or May 25 for all other portions. The SBE must impose penalties on the statewide assessment contractor for test scores received after May 26,

unless the contractor provides unofficial test scores and data to local education agencies by the prescribed deadline. A third-grade pupil who is not retained and obtains a score on the reading portion of the statewide assessment that does not demonstrate sufficient reading skills must receive evidence-based intervention and remedial strategies developed by the SBE.

department of education; reporting requirements (H.B. 2203) – Chapter 87

Requires the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) to review each statutory requirement that requires public schools to report information to ADE or requires ADE to report to the Legislature. For each reporting requirement, ADE must identify whether: 1) the reporting requirement has expired or is otherwise obsolete; and 2) public schools or ADE are required to submit the same information for multiple reporting requirements. By December 1, 2026, ADE must submit a report to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and President of the Senate that: 1) summarizes the statutory reporting requirements review; and 2) recommends legislative action to consolidate, eliminate or modify reporting requirements.

teachers academy; community college students (H.B. 2255) – Chapter 23 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, increases the maximum number of academic years, from two to four, and semesters, from four to eight, that a community college may provide a scholarship for tuition and fees to a community college student enrolled in the Arizona Teachers Academy.

patriotic youth groups; school access. (H.B. 2312/S.B. 1370) – Chapter 4

Authorizes, in the first quarter of each academic school year, a public school principal (principal) to allow patriotic youth group representatives (representatives) to address students during regular school hours about how the patriotic youth group supports educational interests and civic involvement. After receiving a request from a representative during the first two weeks of an academic school year, the principal may: 1) provide the patriotic youth group with verbal or written approval that includes the date and time that the representatives may address students; and 2) accept patriotic youth group materials from the representative, which the principal must ensure are distributed directly to students. A public school may not discriminate against or deny equal access to any patriotic youth group that wishes to conduct a meeting within a designated open forum or limited public forum.

A *patriotic youth group* is any group or organization that: 1) serves individuals who are younger than 21 years old; 2) has an educational purpose that promotes patriotism and civic involvement; and 3) is a patriotic organization, or the state affiliate of the patriotic organization, that is outlined in federal law.

schools; weapons detection systems; administration (H.B. 2370) – Chapter 58

Allows, if a school district or charter school has a weapons detection system: 1) the school district's policies and procedures to authorize the school district superintendent to modify the

weapons detection system without prior approval by the school district governing board (governing board); or 2) the charter school governing body (governing body) to authorize the highest-ranking charter school officer who has final decision-making authority to modify the weapons detection system without prior approval by the governing body. A school district superintendent or charter school officer who has been authorized to modify a weapons detection system must report each modification to the applicable governing board or governing body within 24 hours. A governing board or governing body may not authorize any other person to modify a weapons detection system without prior approval by the governing board or governing body.

~~school districts; leases; housing development~~ (NOW: trampoline court regulations; designation) (H.B. 2383) – Chapter 91

Amends Laws 2014, Chapter 259, which established trampoline court regulations, to designate the legislation as *Ty's Law*.

fitness program; school report cards (H.B. 2395) – Chapter 59

Establishes the Arizona School Fitness Program (Program) within the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) to recognize public schools that elect to participate in a nationally recognized physical fitness test or event. A school that elects to participate in the Program may include the Program designation in the school's report card and ADE must develop guidelines and identify best practices and resources for participating schools.

advanced mathematics courses; student enrollment (H.B. 2423) – Chapter 92

Requires each school district and charter school to enroll a student who is in grade six, seven or eight in an advanced mathematics course for the next mathematics course in which the student enrolls if the student's parent does not object and the student demonstrates the highest proficiency in grade-level mathematics on: 1) the statewide assessment; or 2) a benchmark assessment that is aligned to the statewide assessment and is administered by the school in which the student was enrolled in the immediately preceding year. On a student's enrollment in an advanced mathematics course, the school district or charter school must provide notification to the student's parent that includes the purpose and goals of the automatic advanced mathematics course enrollment and instructions on how the parent may object to the automatic enrollment.

Arizona's education savings plan; revisions (H.B. 2477) – Chapter 252

SEE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

~~public schools; special education; access~~ (NOW: access; special education; public schools) (H.B. 2621) – Chapter 102

Outlines procedures for the parent of a pupil who resides in an unorganized territory to request a Child Find screening, special education evaluation or enrollment in the adjoining school district that is geographically closest to the pupil's residence. A school district that receives a

request is responsible for all Child Find activities for that pupil and for providing a free, appropriate public education (FAPE) if the pupil is a child with a disability and the child's parent requests enrollment. If an early intervention services program determines that a pupil who resides in an unorganized territory is eligible for early intervention services between 45 and 90 days before the pupil's third birthday, the early intervention services program must initiate the transition process from Part C to Part B of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) as soon as possible, consistent with federal law. If the adjoining school district conducts a special education evaluation and determines that a pupil who resides in an unorganized territory is eligible for special education and related services, the pupil's parent may request enrollment in the school district at any time. On receipt of a request for enrollment of a pupil who resides in an unorganized territory and who is eligible for special education and related services, the school district must prepare a certificate of educational convenience (CEC) application for the pupil and offer the pupil a FAPE.

For the parent of a pupil who resides in unorganized territory, does not have a school district of attendance and seeks to apply for a CEC, the requirements to enroll the pupil in a school through open enrollment and apply to the school district for a CEC are replaced with an authorization for the parent of a pupil who resides in unorganized territory, does not have a school district of attendance and seeks to enroll in public school to: 1) enroll the pupil in a school through open enrollment; or 2) request the pupil's enrollment in the adjoining school district closest to the pupil's residence. A school that receives a request for enrollment must submit a completed CEC application for the pupil to the county school superintendent. Within five business days of receiving a CEC application, a county school superintendent must issue a CEC authorizing the pupil to attend the identified school district or notify the school district and pupil's parent that they are not issuing a CEC. A school district may not delay Child Find activities, parental consent for a special education evaluation or specified timelines because a CEC application is processing.

Replaces the requirement for a county school superintendent to issue a CEC to a pupil who is placed by a state placing agency or court in a specified residential placement with a requirement for the school district governing board (governing board) to admit such pupils if the child's placement is located within the school district boundaries. Outlines procedures to determine the school district that is responsible for conducting IDEA identification and evaluation activities for pupils who are placed by a state placing agency or court in a residential placement and who are parentally placed in a private school or attends a homeschool. Outlines administrative requirements for state placing agencies, including requirements to develop and provide an attestation form as evidence of a child's eligibility for enrollment in a school district.

A pupil who resides in an unorganized territory or who is placed in a residential placement and either is parentally placed in a private school or attends a homeschool retains: 1) the rights established by IDEA relating to state eligibility; and 2) the right to equitable services under proportionate share funding, if the pupil is parentally placed in a nonprofit private school.

Requires each county school superintendent, before FY 2028, to develop and make publicly available a CEC application form and instructions for submission. A county school superintendent may develop an online application portal for the CEC application form if specified conditions are met. Outlines CEC application posting requirements for the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) and school districts.

Prescribes requirements for a school district to ensure that a child of an active military duty parent who is eligible to receive services or accommodations is provided such services or accommodations. ADE must post on its website information on the residency and services or accommodations requirements for a child of an active military duty parent.

computer science proficiency; state seal (H.B. 2764) – Chapter 112

Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) to establish a State Seal of Computer Science Proficiency Program (Proficiency Program) to recognize students who graduate from high school and attain a high level of proficiency in computer science. Outlines Proficiency Program administrative requirements, including requirements for the SPI to create a State Seal of Computer Science Proficiency to be affixed to diplomas and noted on transcripts and for the State Board of Education to adopt minimum Proficiency Program requirements in collaboration with the Arizona Department of Education and computer science education experts. Any school district or charter school may voluntarily participate in the Proficiency Program by notifying the SPI of their intent to participate.

Native American language; instruction; certification (H.B. 2895) – Chapter 117

Stipulates that, if the State Board of Education (SBE), a school district or a charter school includes a requirement in the minimum course of study for high school graduation that students must receive instruction in a world language, the SBE, school district or charter school must allow students to satisfy the requirement by demonstrating proficiency in a Native American language. The SBE may establish criteria for evaluating students' Native American language proficiency.

training; AEDs; CPR; school personnel (H.B. 4043) – Chapter 213

Requires, beginning August 1, 2027, each school district and charter school to ensure that there is at least one employee at each school campus during regular school hours who has successfully completed: 1) a training course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid; and 2) if there is at least one automated external defibrillator (AED) at the school campus, a training course in the use of AEDs.

interscholastic; intramural athletics; biological sex (H.C.R. 2003)

Subject to voter approval, statutorily requires each athletic association that sponsors an interscholastic or intramural sport, beginning January 1, 2027, to expressly designate the sport based on the sex of athletes who participate in the sport. Beginning January 1, 2027, prohibits a school or athletic association from authorizing any individual to use a restroom, locker room, shower room or other private space that is integral to athletic engagement if the space is not designated for the individual's sex. A school or athletic association may not open any interscholastic or intramural sport or athletic team that is designated for *females, women* or *girls* to athletes of the male sex. A government entity, licensing organization, accrediting organization or athletic association may not entertain a complaint, open an investigation or take other adverse action against an athletic association for maintaining separate interscholastic or intramural athletic

teams or sports for athletes of the female sex. An athlete who is deprived of athletic opportunity, or who suffers harm, has a private cause of action against an athletic association that knowingly violates the requirements relating to the designation of interscholastic or intramural athletic teams or sports based on sex. Designates this legislation as the *Protect Girls' Sports in Arizona Act*. 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.

~~technical correction; universities; admissions~~ (NOW: public schools; activity; nutrition; support) (H.C.R. 2015)

Expresses the Legislature's support for efforts by public schools to display the Dietary Guidelines for Americans in an accessible school location and ensure that each student participates in a minimum of 60 minutes of physical activity each school day through appropriate means. Declares the Legislature's recognition for the importance of local control and support for efforts by local education agencies (LEAs) to implement the recommendations in ways that best serve each LEA's students and communities.

~~minimum wage; exception; homeless~~ (NOW: school districts; labor organizations; resources) (H.C.R. 2040)

Subject to voter approval, constitutionally prohibits a school district, beginning January 1, 2028, from using public monies and resources to support a labor organization's operations or to perform labor organization activities during working hours. Outlines prohibitions on school districts and school district employees, including prohibitions on: 1) deducting payment from an employee's paycheck for labor organization membership dues; 2) providing access to the school district's internal communications systems to distribute labor organization materials; 3) using facilities for labor organization recruitment meetings during working hours; and 4) approving an employee's paid leave for business related to labor organization activities.

Prohibits the state or a political subdivision from negotiating with a labor organization for an agreement regarding employees' terms and conditions of employment. 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.

~~elected officials; salary; prohibition~~ (NOW: military families; scholarship accounts) (H.C.R. 2048)

Subject to voter approval, constitutionally prohibits the state from confiscating monies from any scholarship account of any student who is a child of a military family if: 1) the scholarship account is established and maintained by the state pursuant to a program that designates any student who is the child of a military family and who satisfies enrollment requirements as eligible to receive scholarship monies; and 2) a student may use the scholarship account monies for tuition and fees at eligible postsecondary educational institutions.

Stipulates that, if a bill enacted into law or a measure approved by the voters on or after November 1, 2026, violates the prohibition on confiscating scholarship account monies, the entire bill or measure is void. A court may not sever any portion of a bill or measure that violates the

prohibition. Designates this legislation as the *Military Families College Savings and Scholarship Protection Act*. 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

disruption; educational institution; concealed weapon (S.B. 1068) – VETOED

SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.

federal tax credit; authorization; scholarships (S.B. 1142) – VETOED

SEE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

public schools; interoperable communications; requirements (S.B. 1315) – VETOED

Requires each school district and charter school that receives monies from the state or a local law enforcement agency (LEA) for interoperable communications to select or develop a system, method or technology to establish and maintain interoperable communications capabilities that include prescribed mechanisms, including the ability for designated school personnel to notify and communicate with LEAs in real time during a school emergency. By July 1 of each year, each school district and charter school that establishes and maintains interoperable communications capabilities must submit an affidavit to the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) attesting that the school district or charter school meets outlined interoperable communications capabilities requirements. Outlines ADE administrative requirements, including requirements to develop guidelines and best practices and provide an annual statewide interoperability readiness report to outlined individuals.

If a local LEA has monies available to establish and maintain interoperable communications capabilities with school districts and charter schools within the LEA's jurisdiction, the LEA must notify each school district and charter school and offer to provide monies for interoperable communications capabilities. If an LEA does not have sufficient monies for each school district and charter school within the LEA's jurisdiction, the LEA must select schools for which sufficient monies are available and offer to provide the monies to such schools. If the school district or charter school declines the LEA's offer, the LEA must select another school within the LEA's jurisdiction to offer the monies.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1315 lacks a comprehensive approach to school safety and needs more work with stakeholders in law enforcement and public education.

interscholastic activities; criminal offenses; ineligibility (S.B. 1475) – VETOED

Requires a school district governing board (governing board) to prohibit a student from participating in a school district-sponsored interscholastic activity or program if the student has been convicted of or admitted in open court, pleaded no contest or admitted in a plea agreement to committing aggravated assault that involves a deadly weapon or results in physical injury, outlined

sexual offenses, stalking or domestic violence. On notice that a student is charged with or awaiting trial on any of the outlined criminal offenses, a governing board must prohibit that student from participating in an interscholastic activity or program until the charges against the student are dismissed or the student is found to be not guilty. A governing board must require any student who participates or seeks to participate in an interscholastic activity or program to certify on a prescribed form whether the student has been convicted of or admitted in open court, pleaded no contest or admitted in a plea agreement to committing any of the outlined criminal offenses.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that the ability to participate in school activities is an important tool in the rehabilitation process for troubled youth and further isolating them from their peers without a clear process for reinstatement would do more harm than good.

public schools; civics instruction requirement (S.B. 1572) – VETOED

Requires each public school to observe Celebrate Freedom Week and include civics instruction in each social studies course during Celebrate Freedom Week, including: 1) for grades 1 through 12, instruction on the original intent, meaning, importance and historical context of the U.S. Declaration of Independence and Constitution and instruction on the relationship between the ideas expressed in the U.S. Declaration of Independence and specified topics in U.S. history; and 2) for grades 3 through 12, a recitation by students of a statutorily prescribed passage of the U.S. Declaration of Independence, with outlined exemptions. The State Board of Education must ensure that public schools do not censor the historical documents to exclude religious references and may adopt rules and policies to implement the Celebrate Freedom Week requirements.

Celebrate Freedom Week is the instruction week that includes September 17 or an instruction week designated by the governing body of the public school. Designates this legislation as the *Return to Civics Instruction Act.*

The Governor indicates in her veto message that she believes the curriculum outlined by S.B. 1572 is already covered adequately throughout the normal course of the school year.

public schools; released time courses (S.B. 1741) – VETOED

Requires each school district governing board and charter school governing body to allow students to attend a released time course during regular school hours if: 1) the school receives written consent from each participating student's parent; 2) the released time course provider provides religious instruction to participating students and meets other eligibility requirements; 3) transportation services are provided by the released time course provider, participating students or participating students' parents; and 4) each participating student is responsible for completing any missed schoolwork. A school district or charter school must award academic credit to each student who successfully completes the released time course and count any time a student spends in the released time course during regular school hours as instructional time and instructional hours. Prohibits a school district or charter school from: 1) incurring expenses to provide a released time course; 2) allowing a released time course to be provided on school property; or 3) denying any released time course provider equal access to monies, benefits or services that the school provides to other community groups or independent entities.

Grants a private cause of action to any person who is adversely affected by a violation of the released time course requirements against the school district or charter school for specified damages, costs and relief.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that Arizona has a robust school choice system and parents have every right and opportunity for their children to receive a religious education, but if their child is enrolled in a state public school, the instruction time will be used for standards-aligned instruction.

school libraries; professional associations; prohibitions (H.B. 2008) – VETOED

Prohibits a public school library from using public monies to pay any professional association that is dedicated to promoting, supporting and advocating for libraries, librarians and information services. Designates this legislation as the *Library Freedom Act.*

The Governor indicates in her veto message that at a time when literacy rates are on the decline nationwide, she will not support legislation that deprives children of the resources they need to reach their full potential.

statewide assessment; written form; requirements (H.B. 2033) – VETOED

Expands the list of reasons for which a school district or charter school may administer the statewide assessment as a written test to include the majority approval of the school district governing board or charter school governing body.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that on April 13, 2026, she announced a bill moratorium until the legislative majority provides their FY 2027 state budget proposal for the purpose of engaging in budget negotiations.

public educational institutions; adoption information (H.B. 2040) – VETOED

Requires a public educational institution to provide information relating to current adoption practices in the United States to students and where a student may find adoption-related resources and support in Arizona each time that a public educational institution employee, in the employee's official capacity: 1) discusses contraception, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) or sexually transmitted infections (STIs) with students; 2) dispenses contraception at the school or to students; or 3) provides STD or STI testing to students.

Adds, to the instruction that a school district's or charter school's sex education curricula must include, instruction on: 1) the current adoption practices in the United States; 2) adoption-related resources and support in Arizona; and 3) the statutory requirements and protections relating to safe havens for newborn infants.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2040 places burdens on public education institutions that require adoption information to be provided in inappropriate settings.

school districts; employment contracts; publication (H.B. 2075) – VETOED

Requires each school district governing board (governing board) to submit to the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) a copy of the employment contract for each superintendent, assistant superintendent, associate superintendent (district superintendent) and chief financial officer (CFO) employed during the preceding five years. ADE and each governing board must post all submitted employment contracts on their respective websites and may not remove the employment contracts until at least five years after the date on which the employment contract is terminated. ADE or a governing board may redact personally identifiable information that is exempt from public disclosure before posting the employment contracts.

Requires ADE to create a searchable online database that contains outlined information from each submitted employment contract, including the base salary, performance-based pay, personal leave and retirement and insurance benefits received by each district superintendent and CFO. By December 1, ADE must annually compile and post a report on its website that includes specified information for each school district that employs a district superintendent or CFO, including the base salary, a list of all employee benefits and the car allowance, if any.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that Arizona has a robust school choice environment that requires comparable information between options and H.B. 2075 fails to ensure that all options in the marketplace are held to the same level of transparency.

mental health instruction requirement; repeal (H.B. 2093) – VETOED

Removes the requirement that mental health instruction must incorporate the multiple dimensions of health by including mental health and the relationship of physical and mental health to enhance student understanding, social and emotional learning, attitudes and behavior that promote health and well-being.

Repeals, on January 1, 2037, the statutory requirements for the State Board of Education to require all health education instruction to include mental health instruction and consult with outlined individuals and organizations in adopting the mental health instruction requirements.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that on April 13, 2026, she announced a bill moratorium and asked the legislative majority to provide their FY 2027 state budget proposal for the purpose of engaging in budget negotiations.

parents' bill of rights; remedies (H.B. 2249) – VETOED

Expands the Parents' Bill of Rights to include the rights to: 1) consent in writing and be informed if any school employee facilitates or implements any form of social transitioning for the minor child, including referring to a minor child by a name other than the child's legal name or using pronouns that do not align with the child's sex; and 2) request, review and access their minor child's complete educational record. A school district or school employee may not implement any form of social transitioning without written parental consent or withhold information in a minor child's educational record from the parent. The state, a political subdivision or any official acting

under color of law expressly waives all claims to sovereign, qualified or discretionary immunity for any violation of the Parents' Bill of Rights.

Prohibits the state or a political subdivision, governmental entity or institution from maintaining a policy that allows an employee to facilitate, encourage or coerce a minor child to withhold information from the child's parent. A minor child's parent may bring suit against: 1) the state or a political subdivision, governmental entity or institution for maintaining a policy that allows the facilitation, encouragement or coercion to withhold information from the parent; or 2) an employee of such entities who has, or has attempted to, facilitate, encourage or coerce a minor child to withhold information from the parent. Within six months after the general effective date, the state or a political subdivision, governmental entity or institution has an affirmative duty to investigate, discover and disclose all previous instances in which the entity facilitated, encouraged or coerced a minor child to withhold information. Any entity that facilitated, encouraged or coerced a minor child to withhold information is civilly liable to the minor child's parent for any prior violation that was not disclosed within six months of the general effective date. Outlines procedures and criteria that allow a minor child's parent to demonstrate that a governmental entity maintained a policy of facilitating or coercing a minor child to withhold information.

At a minimum, a governmental entity is liable to a minor child's parent in an amount of $500,000 and a governmental entity official is personally liable to a minor child's parent in an amount of $20,000 for each instance: 1) of interfering with or usurping a fundamental right; 2) in which information was withheld from a minor child's parent; and 3) in which an offending action was not disclosed within six months of the general effective date.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that education is most effective when schools, teachers and parents work collaboratively for the benefit of the student, and she will not support a bill that threatens schools and educators with financial penalties and pushes parents to litigate, rather than collaborate around their child's education.

school facilities oversight board; members (H.B. 2378) – VETOED

Adds, to the eligibility requirements for the School Facilities Oversight Board (SFOB) members who are a registered professional architect and a registered professional engineer, a requirement that such members' business not include school construction.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2378 could limit the pool of qualified candidates to serve on the SFOB and reduce the knowledge and expertise of overseeing and approving school district construction projects.

school district governing boards; training (H.B. 2379) – VETOED

Requires each school district governing board member (board member) to complete a training program within 45 days after the first day of the board member's term of office that includes at least eight hours of instruction on school finance. A county school superintendent must provide a training program that is approved by the Auditor General (OAG) and meets outlined instructional requirements and may enter into an intergovernmental agreement with another county school superintendent to provide the training program. Requires current board members whose

term of office expires at least one year after the general effective date to complete the training program within one year and outlines annual notification and reporting requirements that detail whether each board member completed the training program.

Requires the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) to provide an OAG-approved training program to each board member who has not completed the training program provided by a county school superintendent. ADE may charge a school district for the cost of providing the training program to its board members. A board member who does not comply with the training program requirements is ineligible to be a candidate for nomination, election or appointment to the office of board member in any school district, if the board member: 1) was not appointed to the office during the current term; and 2) is a board member of a school district that is identified by the OAG as one of the highest risk school districts in Arizona.

Requires ADE and each county school superintendent who provides a training program to submit the training program to the OAG for approval before providing the training program. If the OAG disapproves a submitted training program, ADE may submit the training program to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee (JLAC) for approval. If JLAC approves the training program, ADE may provide the training program to any board member without approval from the OAG.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2379 provides no resources to implement a training mandate and goes too far by prohibiting individuals from candidacy.

school districts; board meetings; expenditures (H.B. 2380) – VETOED

Requires a school district governing board (governing board) and the governing board subcommittees to hold all meetings at a public facility in the school district, subject to open meeting law requirements, and provide the public with online access to all governing board and subcommittee meeting materials. Requires a governing board to provide the public with a live video feed of each meeting and online access to video recordings of each meeting if the school district has: 1) a student count of more than 250 students; or 2) a student count of 250 or fewer students and has previously provided the public with a live video feed of regular governing board meetings. Subcommittee materials and supplemental materials provided to governing board members in preparation for a meeting must be provided upon request or online within five days after receiving the request.

Authorizes any governing board member to remove one or more items from a consent agenda at any time before the governing board votes on the consent agenda. A governing board must separately discuss and vote on each item that is removed.

Requires a governing board to approve, in a public meeting and by majority roll call vote, any out-of-state travel for: 1) governing board members or members-elect; 2) school district superintendents; 3) principals; and 4) representatives of the superintendent or principal. Outlines information that a governing board must identify, estimate and publicly note before voting on whether to approve out-of-state travel. A governing board must approve out-of-state travel before the proposed travel occurs whenever possible. If a prior approval is impossible, the travel must be submitted to the governing board for approval within 30 days after the travel occurs. If a governing board does not approve out-of-state travel that has already occurred, the governing board may require each individual who traveled to reimburse the school district for any expenses incurred.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that she is concerned that the requirement to provide a live video feed could add costs to rural districts where connectivity is an issue and recommends collaboration with education stakeholders to find consensus and limit unintended consequences on small rural districts.

school districts; records; noncompliance; penalties (H.B. 2481) – VETOED

Stipulates that, if a school district fails to correct a Uniform System of Financial Records (USFR) deficiency within 90 days after receiving notice, the State Board of Education (SBE) must: 1) consult with the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) to determine the amount of training or interventions necessary to assist the school district in achieving USFR compliance; and 2) direct ADE to provide to the school district a list of approved programs and providers for the training and interventions prescribed by the SBE and ADE. Within 30 calendar days of receiving the list of training programs and providers, a school district must implement any interventions and provide training to school district administrators or executives as determined by the SBE or ADE. A school district must notify ADE when each intervention is implemented and training is completed.

If a school district fails to correct a USFR deficiency within 18 months after receiving notice: 1) the SBE must notify the school district governing board that the superintendent is ineligible to receive performance-based pay until the Auditor General (OAG) reports the school district's USFR compliance; and 2) the school district governing board may not call a bond or override election until the OAG reports that the school district has corrected any USFR deficiencies.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that statute already contains financial penalties for USFR noncompliance and depriving school districts of the ability to call a bond or override election will only negatively impact students.

~~building renewal grants; procurement practices~~ (NOW: building renewal grants; job-order-contracting) (H.B. 2482) – VETOED

Caps the maximum amount of an individual job order for job-order-contracting for construction services at $1,000,000 for any project that receives Building Renewal Grant Fund (BRG Fund) monies and that is not an emergency, as determined by the Division of School Facilities (SFD). Before approving a project that receives BRG Fund monies, SFD Staff must: 1) verify that the requirements are not artificially divided or fragmented to constitute a job order that satisfies the $1,000,000 limitation; and 2) determine whether the project is an emergency within five business after receiving a request from a school district. The SFD must determine that a project is an emergency if the school district demonstrates a serious need for materials, services, construction or expenses that exceeds the school district's adopted budget for the current fiscal year and that seriously threatens the functioning of the school district, the preservation of property or public health, welfare or safety.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that she is concerned about creating a different procurement standard for the BRG Program that could further delay projects that have waited to be funded despite being validated as having a deficiency.

schools; clubs; organizations; parental consent (H.B. 2600) – VETOED

Prohibits a public school from allowing any student in grades six, seven or eight to participate in or join a student club or organization without first obtaining written permission from the student's parent. When requesting written parental permission, a public school must include a description of the purpose, activities and supporters of the student club or organization.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that student clubs provide opportunities for students to explore interests, develop knowledge and forge friendships and that H.B. 2600 creates barriers to student participation.

fetal and prenatal development; instruction (H.B. 2830) – VETOED

Requires the State Board of Education to determine appropriate grade levels for instruction on fetal and prenatal development and adopt science academic standards that require instruction on fetal and prenatal human development as a biological process. The instruction must meet prescribed requirements and be descriptive, age appropriate and not include instruction on sexual activity or behavior, contraception, abortion procedures or reproductive decision-making. The instruction is not sex education and may not be classified as sex education for the purposes of parental consent or opt-out requirements.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that instructional requirements should be left to experts, rather than politicians.

artificial intelligence; course; public schools (H.B. 4005) – VETOED

Requires each school district to provide instruction on the ethical, moral and educational uses of artificial intelligence (AI) to all students in grades 3, 6, 8, 10 and 12. A school district may provide the required AI instruction through a separate course for each grade level or by incorporating the instruction into existing curricula. By October 15, each school district must annually submit a report to the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) that describes the AI instruction and the enrollment metrics for the courses through which the AI instruction is provided.

Requires ADE to adopt a curriculum for the AI instruction that includes instruction on basic AI techniques, ethical considerations for using AI in learning and daily life and how AI might threaten human health and existence. For the purposes of adopting the curriculum, ADE must select a curriculum that is developed by an organization that meets outlined requirements. ADE may provide any combination of guidelines, resources and grants to school districts for the implementation of the AI instruction.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that she does not support establishing different instructional content requirements between charter schools and school districts and that the development of academic content and requirements should be left to experts.

school bonding; ballot language (H.B. 4033) – VETOED

Expands the information that a school district bond election informational pamphlet must contain to include: 1) a complete list of each proposed capital improvement that will be funded with bond proceeds and a description of the proposed cost for each improvement; 2) a description of each proposed improvement, categorized based on the type of improvement; 3) the specific projects that the school district will undertake for each proposed improvement; and 4) for each of the prescribed proposed improvement categories, the percentage of the category's total cost relative to the total proceeds of the bonds. A school district bond election ballot must contain a statement that additional information can be found in the informational pamphlet.

Requires the question of whether to approve school district bonds to be stated in a separate proposition submitted to the voters if the bonds will be used for: 1) the acquisition or update of technology equipment, other than school security equipment or technology infrastructure integral to facility construction; or 2) the construction, acquisition or equipment of a stadium, natatorium, recreational or performing arts facility, administrative buildings or housing for teachers.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that on April 13, 2026, she announced a bill moratorium until the legislative majority provides their FY 2027 state budget proposal for the purpose of engaging in budget negotiations.

Federalism & Family Law Committee

Senator Mark Finchem, Chairperson



Anna Nguyen, Research Analyst

Tatum Ross, Intern

FEDERALISM & FAMILY LAW COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

DCS; policies; procedures (S.B. 1496) – Chapter 181

SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.

landownership; foreign adversary; prohibition (S.B. 1683) – Chapter 240 W/O

Expands the prohibition on a foreign adversary nation or foreign adversary agent purchasing, owning, acquiring or obtaining a substantial interest in real property in Arizona to include leasing real property or obtaining a concession or current or future substantial interest in real property. Redefines *substantial interest* as a 15 percent interest or more that is calculated as if all contingent interests held by the foreign adversary nation or agent have been converted or exercised. If the superior court finds that a title or substantial interest in real property was obtained in violation of the prohibition and the substantial interest is held through a certificate of purchase, lease, right-of-way or other instrument relating to land owned in trust by the state, the court must declare that the substantial interest is extinguished and order that instrument canceled, subject to the rights of any registered mortgagee or other lienholder.

A foreign adversary nation or agent may not install, maintain, have access to the data of or operate any equipment on any real property in Arizona that includes uncrewed or autonomous systems, antennas, communications systems, surveillance devices or sensors, whether or not the installation, maintenance, access or operation is: 1) permanent or temporary; 2) physical or embedded within other structures; or 3) authorized by contract, license, concession or informal arrangement. A violation of the prohibition is a class 5 felony. Beginning January 1, 2027, a public service corporation, telecommunications provider, critical infrastructure owner or state agency must notify the Attorney General (AG) and the Arizona Corporation Commission if the entity has entered into or suspects a lease, license or colocation agreement may have allowed a foreign adversary nation or agent to install equipment on the entity's property or infrastructure.

To enforce the outlined prohibitions, the AG may seek an immediate injunction to cease equipment operation and, on the initiation of a federal Committee on Foreign Investments in the United States review of a transaction involving real property in Arizona, may petition the court for an automatic stay of any property development or equipment installation pending the federal outcome.

child neglect; financial resources; exception (H.B. 2041) – Chapter 192

Prohibits a parent, guardian or custodian from being considered as having abused or neglected a child or from being charged with abuse or neglect of a child, based solely on the inability to provide the child with supervision, food, clothing, shelter or medical care, if the inability is due solely to a lack of available financial resources.

AHCCCS; waivers; American Indians; services (H.B. 2177) – Chapter 49

Requires the Director of the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), by March 30 of each year, to apply to the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for a Section 1115 waiver to authorize Medicaid payments for covered services that are provided to American Indian and Alaska Native members through Indian Health Service facilities or other specified tribal facilities and that were eliminated or reduced in the state plan on or after September 2010. Upon approval, AHCCCS may make payments for covered services that are provided to eligible American Indian and Alaska Native members.

~~DCS; credit freeze; consumer reporting (NOW: DCS; credit freeze; reporting; appropriation)~~ (NOW: DCS; credit freeze; reporting) (H.B. 2321) – Chapter 197

Requires the Department of Child Safety (DCS) to place a security freeze on a child's record or credit report within 30 days after the child is placed in DCS care. The security freeze must remain in effect until the child reaches 16 years old, after which the child may elect to have the security freeze remain or removed. DCS must notify a child's parent or guardian when a security freeze has been placed on the child's record or credit report and that a security freeze remains on the child's record or credit report when the child leaves DCS custody. The notification must include the process to remove the security freeze when the child leaves DCS care.

family court; address confidentiality (H.B. 2594) – Chapter 101

Outlines marital and domestic relations protection requirements for Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) participants. An ACP participant's residential address must be sealed in all court records and the court must use a substitute address in all filings, notices and communications. The court may not order the disclosure of an ACP participant's residence address or location information unless the court finds, by clear and convincing evidence, that disclosure is essential to a compelling state interest and that no reasonable alternative exists to accomplish that purpose without the disclosure. If a parent has sole legal decision-making authority and participates in the ACP because of the actions of the other parent, the statutory requirements that entitle both parents equal access to a child's information do not apply to the other parent. Prescribes criminal penalties for obtaining or disclosing information protected by the ACP.

~~parents' rights; guardianship; notice; attestation~~ (NOW: parents’ rights; guardianship; notice) (H.B. 2661) – Chapter 202

Adds, to the rights of a parent, guardian or custodian who is under investigation for an allegation of abuse or neglect by the Department of Child Safety, the right to be informed that the parent or guardian may delegate temporary guardianship of the child.

annexation of territory; procedures (H.B. 2793) – Chapter 205

Allows a city or town to waive the 30-day waiting period and public hearing requirement for a proposed annexation, if the annexation is initiated by a property owner whose property

encompasses 100 percent of the property proposed to be annexed. The annexation becomes final after the city or town governing body adopts the annexation ordinance. A city or town may satisfy the public notice requirement for a proposed annexation hearing by: 1) publishing the notice electronically in the newspaper's electronic edition, if available; and 2) if the proposed annexation territory consists of a single parcel and the parcel is 160 acres or fewer, posting a single notice on the site of the parcel that is proposed to be annexed in an area that is most visible to the public. If a fire district is part of the proposed annexation territory, the city or town must provide notice to the district at least 30 days before the annexation is complete.

~~firearm destruction~~ (NOW: postnuptial agreements; enforcement) (H.B. 2861) – Chapter 26

SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.

domestic relations; domestic violence (H.B. 2995) – Chapter 263 E

An emergency measure effective June 22, 2026, that revises the statutory requirements for legal decision-making or parenting time matters and modifications when there is an allegation of domestic violence. In any legal decision-making and parenting time matter, the court must assign the highest priority to the personal safety and physical, mental and emotional well-being of both the child and the domestic violence victim.

Before the court enters an order for legal decision-making or parenting time, the court must resolve any domestic violence allegation by making specific written findings on the record about each of the following considerations: 1) a thorough description of the evidence that justified or prevented a finding that domestic violence occurred; 2) after considering each outlined factor, a thorough explanation for why a parent who committed domestic violence did or did not rebut the mandatory rebuttable presumption; and 3) a thorough explanation for why the court's choice of precautions is in the child's best interests. A parent who has committed domestic violence and who previously failed to rebut the mandatory rebuttable presumption remains subject to the same presumption in any modification proceeding regardless of the allegations that are made in the new modification pleadings. Designates this legislation as the *Alec and Lydia Act*.

termination; parent-child relationship; service (H.B. 4042) – Chapter 212

Modifies the criteria for evidence to be considered sufficient to justify the termination of a parent-child relationship by specifying that a potential father must have failed to serve the mother with a copy of a filed paternity action within 30 days after completion of service.

Muslim Brotherhood; designation; terrorist organization (H.C.M. 2001)

Urges the U.S. President and Congress to immediately designate the Muslim Brotherhood as a foreign terrorist organization and urges Arizona law enforcement to identify and report any Muslim Brotherhood-linked organizations operating within Arizona.

CAIR; terrorist organization; urging designation (H.C.M. 2002)

Urges the U.S. President and Congress to conduct a full formal review to determine whether the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) meets the criteria to be designated as a foreign terrorist organization and to pass the federal *Designate the CAIR as a Terrorist Organization Act*.

property ownership; communist country; restrictions (H.C.M. 2005)

Urges the U.S. Congress to study and consider enacting legislation to regulate or restrict the ownership of real property in the United States by foreign governments operating under communist or authoritarian systems.

endangered species act; urging reform (H.C.M. 2006)

Urges the U.S. President and Congress to work to reform the federal Endangered Species Act and the federal Migratory Bird Conservation Act and urges the federal government to reduce burdensome regulatory requirements on ranchers and prevent unfair lease cancellations and evictions on federally controlled grazing lands.

legitimacy; Judea and Samaria; recognition (H.C.R. 2047)

Declares that the Legislature recognizes the historical, biblical and legal legitimacy of the regions of Judea and Samaria and formally rejects the term *West Bank*.

LEGISLATION VETOED

foreign law; sharia law; prohibition (S.B. 1018) – VETOED

Specifies, for the purpose of the statutory prohibition on enforcing foreign laws that conflict with federal or state law, that the definition of *foreign law* includes Sharia law and foreign, religious or cultural laws, customs or practices that meet outlined criteria.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that Sharia law has already been outlawed by existing statute at the state and federal levels.

~~foreign entities; land; legislative approval~~ (NOW: foreign entities; land; review commission) (S.B. 1075) – VETOED

Establishes the Foreign Entity Review Commission (Commission) within the Arizona Department of Real Estate (ADRE) and outlines Commission membership and duties. Prohibits land in Arizona from being conveyed to a foreign entity that is hostile to the United States without the Commission's approval and requires a grantee's identification to be submitted to ADRE. The Attorney General may bring an action against a person or entity for a violation of the prohibition

and the person or entity is subject to a civil penalty of $250,000 or 50 percent of the fair market value of the real property that is the subject of the violation, whichever is greater. A person who knowingly violates the prohibition is guilty of a class 1 misdemeanor, or a class 6 felony if certain criteria are met.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1075 is unnecessary because foreign adversaries are already prohibited from purchasing any land in Arizona.

federal government; land acquisition; consent (S.B. 1281) – VETOED

Requires an escrow agent to notify the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives (House) that a contract for the sale or transfer of private real property to the federal government or a federal agency has been placed in escrow. The Arizona State Land Department must maintain a catalog of all existing or new covered federal designations in Arizona, rather than only national monuments in Arizona, and must notify the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House if a parcel comprising a covered federal designation is not confined to the smallest area. Designates this legislation as the *Tax Base Protection Act*.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1281 inserts the Legislature into private property transactions between private sellers and federal agencies, chilling voluntary sales that protect public access, open space and working landscapes across Arizona.

parenting time; expert testimony; qualifications (H.B. 2662) – VETOED

Allows the court, in any parenting time proceeding in which a parent is alleged to have committed domestic violence or abuse, to take testimony from an expert witness relating to the alleged domestic violence or abuse only if the expert witness has demonstrated expertise and clinical experience in working with victims of domestic violence or abuse. Psychological testing, principles, diagnoses and concepts that may be used by an expert witness are limited to testing, principles, diagnoses and concepts that have been empirically established and generally accepted as valid and reliable for the parameters and conditions tested or the issues evaluated. The court may not allow evidence relating to polygraph examinations, voice-stress analysis or other psychological measures. Excludes a law enforcement officer who has experience and training in recognizing domestic violence or abuse from the requirements for expert witness testimony.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2662 failed to address her concerns from last year when she vetoed a similar bill and urged proponents to work with stakeholders to better understand existing practices that support the best interests of children.

Finance Committee

Senator J.D. Mesnard, Chairperson



Molly Graver, Research Analyst

Sierra Jones, Intern

FINANCE COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

death benefits; burial costs (S.B. 1135) – Chapter 145

Increases, from $5,000 to $10,000, the maximum amount of burial expenses that are paid as a workers' compensation death benefit in the case of a workplace injury causing death.

workers' compensation; death benefits; remarriage (S.B. 1136) – Chapter 146

Eliminates remarriage as a disqualifying event for workers' compensation death benefit payments for the surviving spouse of a first responder. Applies the death benefit eligibility to the spouses of first responders who lost benefits due to remarriage on or after January 1, 2000, but only for prospective benefit payments.

insurance; cost sharing; breast exams (S.B. 1165) – Chapter 151

Prohibits, beginning January 1, 2027, a health insurer from imposing cost sharing requirements for preventative screening services for breast cancer or additional screening services required to complete the screening continuum. For high-deductible health plans, the prohibition applies after meeting the deductible unless the care is preventative.

~~campaign spending; personal security~~ (NOW: construction contracts; revitalization districts) (S.B. 1189) – Chapter 217

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

~~storm related insurance claims~~ (NOW: storm related insurance claims; adjusters) (S.B. 1206) – Chapter 157

Prohibits an adjuster and contractor from soliciting services or proposing work agreements while a loss-producing event is ongoing or while a public safety emergency response is on the damaged premises. Prohibits an adjuster from endorsing payment without the insured's direct endorsement and signature. For a post-storm repair or replacement claim, a contractor may not also act as an adjuster on behalf of the insured or pay the insured's deductible.

firefighters; occupational disease; cancers (S.B. 1215) – Chapter 219

Retroactive to July 1, 2021, clarifies the conditions presumed to have arisen out of employment as a peace officer, firefighter or fire investigator for the purposes of workers' compensation coverage.

uniform assignment; benefit of creditors (S.B. 1252) – Chapter 29

Adopts the Uniform Assignment for Benefit of Creditors Act that governs the use of an *assignment for benefit of creditors*, which is a method for a person or entity to transfer control of their assets to an assignee who disposes of the assets and distributes proceeds to creditors according to an order of priority. Requires an assignment agreement between the assignor and assignee and states that the assignee has a fiduciary duty to the assignment estate for the benefit of creditors. Requires creditors to submit a proof of claim to the assignee and outlines an order of priority for claim payments. Outlines the powers and duties of an assignor and assignee, prescribes procedures for providing, allowing and disputing claims, determines liability and addresses interstate assignments.

correctional officers; supplemental contributions (S.B. 1270) – Chapter 165

Allows a Corrections Officer Retirement Plan (CORP) employer to make a supplemental contribution incentive payment to the retirement account of a Tier 3 CORP member who participates in the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Defined Contribution Retirement Plan. The incentive payments must be made at specified service or employment intervals, equally among members who meet such service or employment requirements, and may not exceed $5,000 per member per employment or service interval, with a five-year graded vesting schedule. Each CORP employer must adopt a policy detailing the supplemental contribution incentive payment requirements and amounts before implementing any payments.

PSPRS; investments (S.B. 1292) – Chapter 168

Specifies that the prohibition against the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System owning more than five percent of the voting stock of any one corporation only applies to publicly traded corporations.

property tax assessment; destroyed property (S.B. 1294) – Chapter 65

Retroactive to September 14, 2024, expands the county assessor's authority to prorate the value of destroyed property for property tax purposes by removing the statutory definition of *destroyed*. Allows a county assessor to retain a property's classification for five years or until a change in use occurs, whichever is earlier, only if the property has been destroyed by a verifiable accident, including fire, flood or an act of God.

~~board of supervisors; membership~~ (NOW: proof of insurance; workers' compensation) (S.B. 1428) – Chapter 228

Requires, beginning July 1, 2027, a zero estimated exposure policy issued by an insurer to include a signed statement that attests to the accuracy of the information provided in the application and that the applicant has no employees and an estimated exposure of zero. A *zero estimated exposure policy* is an insurance policy obtained by an employer to cover the employer's liability to pay compensation after the employer reports a total estimated exposure of zero. An employer

that provides business construction and improvement services and obtains a zero estimated exposure policy must provide each contracted entity with a copy of the policy and a written notification that the employer has a total estimated exposure of zero, both of which must be retained by the contracted entity for at least three years.

For a construction-related workers' compensation policy with zero estimated exposure, a requested certificate of insurance must contain a prescribed statement that confirms the policy's status.

tax corrections act of 2026 (S.B. 1430) – Chapter 30

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

Removes, from the items exempt from transaction privilege and use tax, the specification that the sale of cash equivalents and precious metal bullion and monetized bullion must be to the ultimate consumer.

tax returns; late filing; penalties (H.B. 2016) – Chapter 191

Retroactive to January 1, 2026, prohibits the Arizona Department of Revenue from assessing a late filing penalty on a taxpayer if the taxpayer's income tax liability is zero.

ASRS; premium payment (H.B. 2089) – Chapter 39

Defines an *active employee group health and accident insurance program*, for purposes of the Arizona State Retirement System's health insurance premium benefit subsidy, as a group health and accident insurance program provided by the employer that the member is enrolled in as an employee or dependent of an employee.

ASRS; long-term disability (H.B. 2090) – Chapter 40

Allows an Arizona State Retirement System member to continue receiving long-term disability (LTD) benefits after 24 months of being unable to perform work duties while under the direct care of a physician and also receiving LTD benefits, regardless of whether the 24 months occur within a five-year period.

ASRS; eligibility waiver (H.B. 2092) – Chapter 41

Allows a person to elect not to participate in the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) if the person becomes eligible to participate in ASRS after turning 65 years old and requires the person to make that election within 30 days after becoming eligible for participation.

county water augmentation authorities; bond (H.B. 2098) – Chapter 42

SEE THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

agricultural property; classification; inspection (H.B. 2104) – Chapter 244

Prohibits a county assessor from reclassifying or conducting an on-site inspection of agricultural property for three years after a property owner prevails in a property tax appeal, unless there is a change in use or ownership, a property split or a taxable improvement. During the three-year exemption period, the county assessor may assess the applicable property tax on a previously unreported taxable improvement that is classified as agricultural property.

agricultural property; inspections; notice (H.B. 2105) – Chapter 245

Requires the Arizona Department of Revenue and each county assessor to provide advance notice of property inspections and provide inspection reports to property owners.

Exempts agricultural property that meets the criteria for agricultural classification from on-site inspections in consecutive years, unless there is a change in use or ownership, a property split or a taxable improvement. During the year following the year in which an on-site agricultural property inspection is conducted, the county assessor may assess the applicable property tax on a previously unreported taxable improvement that is classified as agricultural property.

property tax exemption; disability; determination (H.B. 2120) – Chapter 82

Adds a U.S. Social Security Administration determination letter to the items that a person with a total and permanent disability may use to certify their disability for the purposes of determining eligibility for a property tax exemption.

firefighters; employment status (H.B. 2138) – Chapter 47

Defines *firefighter*, for the purposes of workers' compensation coverage while traveling directly to or from work, to include a state firefighter, a member of a city or town fire department and a member of a fire district or fire authority.

property tax errors; electronic communications (H.B. 2173) – Chapter 48

Allows a tax officer to accept a taxpayer's electronic response to a notice of proposed property tax correction. A tax officer must provide an acknowledgment or response of receipt to a taxpayer who elects to electronically respond to a notice of proposed property tax correction or electronically submit a notice of claim and the tax officer may provide related communications electronically, unless the communication is required to be served by certified mail. The time limits and procedural requirements that apply to written communications between a taxpayer and tax officer apply to electronic communications.

~~insurance; modeling organizations; predictive models~~ (NOW: insurance; modeling and data organizations) (H.B. 2174) – Chapter 247

Renames *advisory organizations* as *modeling and data organizations* and applies the advisory organizations statutory authorities and requirements to modeling and data organizations.

Removes the authority of the Director of the Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions (Director) to examine modeling and data organizations and requires modeling and data organizations to file models with the Director to be used by insurers in Arizona for making rates. Models, model outputs, supporting data or additional information requested by the Director are confidential and not subject to subpoena or public records requirements.

Updates the National Association of Insurance Commissioners Reinsurance Act to clarify the exemption from rules relating to specified reinsurance arrangements.

financial assurance; reclamation; escrow; trusts (H.B. 2278) – Chapter 54

SEE THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

Arizona's education savings plan; revisions (H.B. 2477) – Chapter 252

Conforms to the U.S. Internal Revenue Code for purposes of Arizona's AZ529 Plan by expanding the definition of *qualified withdrawal* to allow $20,000, rather than $10,000, of 529 plan monies to be used for qualified K-12 expenses and expanding the definition of *qualified higher education expenses* to include qualified post-secondary credentialing expenses. AZ529 Plan account monies may be transferred or rolled over to an Achieving a Better Life Experience account or Roth Individual Retirement Account, if statutorily prescribed requirements are met.

ASRS; retirement; elected officials (H.B. 2502) – Chapter 201

Grants the authority for a retired Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) member to return to work as an elected official and continue to receive retirement benefits to all elected officials who attain a normal retirement age, rather than only term-limited state elected officials. Allows an ASRS member who is an elected official and who attains a normal retirement date to retire at any time without resigning from their elected position. The period of employment after retirement is not eligible for service purchase and the ASRS member does not earn service credit while retired. An ASRS employer must pay the alternate contribution rate on behalf of a retired elected official ASRS member.

Clarifies that the alternate contribution rate must be paid by ASRS employers on behalf of retired members who return to work with an ASRS employer.

insurance; bona fide associations; qualifications (H.B. 2693) – Chapter 107

Qualifies an association as a *bona fide association* if the association meets the requirements of an *employer* as defined in the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act, rather than meets the requirements outlined in the U.S. Department of Labor's 2018 Association Health Plan Rule. The bona fide association qualifications and requirements do not limit or prohibit the operation of a self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement through a statewide chamber of commerce or statewide business league that meets specified requirements.

Subject to available monies, the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) must conduct a feasibility study, as outlined, on state and school district employee health insurance plans and may accept and spend gifts, grants and donations to conduct, or contract with a third-party to conduct, the feasibility study. ADOA must submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and Legislature by January 1, 2027.

judicial foreclosure; excess proceeds sale (H.B. 2780) – Chapter 256

Allows an action to foreclose the right to redeem a property tax lien that is filed in the superior court to include a request to determine if a sale of the property to recover excess proceeds (excess proceeds sale) is reasonable. Allows a certificate holder, in addition to the property owner, to request the court to determine if an excess proceeds sale is reasonable at any time before the court's judgment is effective. Narrows the authority to bring a civil action against a qualified entity for failing to comply with statutory excess proceeds distribution requirements to only a party that is entitled to a portion of the proceeds.

TPT; exemption; textbook rental (H.B. 2786) – Chapter 258

Exempts the gross income derived from renting or leasing required college textbooks from a bookstore from the transaction privilege tax personal property rental classification.

property tax; exemption; veterans (H.B. 2792/S.B. 1268) – Chapter 2 E

An emergency measure effective February 12, 2026, that exempts the primary residence, rather than the property, of a veteran with a service-connected disability whose U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs disability rating is 100 percent from the full amount of property tax and requires the primary residence, if owned jointly by an eligible veteran and their spouse, to be treated as if owned solely by the veteran.

tourism improvement areas; municipalities; counties (H.B. 2950) – Chapter 206

Allows a municipal or county governing body (governing body) to approve the formation of a tourism improvement area and a lodging business assessment rate on presentation of an area formation petition that is signed by two or more lodging business owners that agreed to participate in the area. Prescribes public notice and hearing requirements for a governing body when considering a tourism improvement area's formation and prohibits a governing body from holding proceedings on a tourism improvement area's formation for one year after receiving written objection from lodging business owners representing 50 percent or more of the total area rooms.

A governing body must contract with its destination marketing organization to manage and implement the tourism improvement area and the area must be designed to lawfully promote tourism and lodging to enhance the economic development climate in the area. Lodging business assessments that are levied to conduct tourism improvement area activities must provide benefits to lodging businesses and associated industries located within the area that are subject to the assessment. Prescribes lodging business assessment administration requirements.

Establishes a 60-day period each year in which lodging business owners that have paid lodging business assessments may request dissolution of the tourism improvement area and, during the 60-day period, any lodging business owner may join or withdraw from the area. Outlines procedures for tourism improvement area management by a lodging business owners' board and requirements for tourism improvement area plans and activities, amendments and dissolution.

credit unions; certificates; powers; committee (H.B. 2979) – Chapter 208

Makes various administrative changes to statutes governing credit unions. Prescribes response times for the Deputy Director of the Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions (Deputy Director) when receiving a completed request for a proposed credit union bylaws amendment, name change or principal place of business change. Requires a state-chartered credit union to submit a request to the Deputy Director to exercise the rights, powers and privileges of an out-of-state credit union. Removes the prohibition against a credit union delegating the authority to exercise any of the credit union's general powers to any person who is not an officer, director or employee of the credit union without the prior written approval of the Deputy Director. Replaces the prohibition against a loan being authorized only when approved by a majority of a credit union's credit committee with a requirement for an appeal of a disapproved loan to be approved or denied by a majority of the credit union's credit committee.

DIFI; certificates of insurance (H.B. 2996) – Chapter 122

Specifies that a certificate of insurance is not an insurance policy, does not amend, extend or alter insurance policy coverage and does not confer any new or additional rights beyond those expressly stated in an insurance policy. The Director of the Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions may investigate any violation of the prohibition and: 1) issue an order that requires the person to cease and desist from the actions that constitute the violation; and 2) assess a civil penalty of up to $1,000 per violation. A person may not prepare, issue, request or require a certificate of insurance that misrepresents an insurance policy.

~~municipal improvement districts; technical correction~~ (NOW: infrastructure finance districts) (H.B. 2999) – Chapter 123

Allows real property owners, until June 30, 2036, to petition the Arizona Finance Authority (AFA) to establish a state affordability infrastructure district (district). Prescribes formation petition filing, fee and review requirements. A district must be formed only on the issuance of a formation order by the AFA and, if a formation order is not issued within 60 days after submission of a complete petition, the AFA must provide a written basis for not adopting the formation order and identify the specific changes that are needed for the petition to be approved. Outlines requirements for property owners to amend the formation petition after district formation.

Outlines procedures and requirements for an established district to be governed by a board of directors that consists of property owners in the district who may approve the issuance of bonds, levy secondary property taxes and approve assessments for financing public infrastructure

projects. Prescribes district election requirements and requirements for issuing bonds, levying taxes and assessments, dissolving the district and related district succession plans.

Requires a district to study the feasibility and benefits of any public infrastructure projects and submit the study to the AFA along with other relevant information and to hold a public hearing on the project's feasibility where the district board may reject, amend or approve the report. Outlines requirements relating to the involvement of localities, disclosures to residential property buyers within a district and construction contracts.

LEGISLATION VETOED

internal revenue code; conformity; deductions (S.B. 1106/H.B. 2153) – VETOED

Retroactive to January 1, 2025, updates the statutory definition of *Internal Revenue Code* to include all federal provisions in effect as of January 1, 2026, with the specific adoption of all retroactive effective dates.

Replaces the Arizona-specific standard deduction by coupling with the federal standard deduction and maintains the current $10,000 state and local taxes deduction. Increases the Dependent Tax Credit and establishes individual income tax subtractions for a specified amount of qualified tips, qualified overtime compensation, distributions from a Trump Account, qualifying child and dependent care expenses and contributions to or distributions from certain retirement accounts. For taxable years beginning January 1, 2026, allows a taxpayer that takes the standard deduction to increase the deduction by an amount equal to the total amount of the taxpayer's charitable contributions, rather than up to 25 percent of qualifying contributions, and prescribes a charitable contribution deduction cap.

Declares the state's election to participate in the federal tax credit for individuals who make qualified contributions to scholarship granting organizations (SGOs) and requires the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) to administer the credit to ensure the state is eligible to participate beginning January 1, 2027. A nonprofit that meets specified requirements may apply to ADOR for certification as an SGO. ADOR must annually submit a list of certified SGOs to the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury and, beginning January 1, 2027, certified SGOs may begin providing scholarships to eligible students for any qualified education expenses.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1106 gives tax breaks to special interests while raising taxes on working seniors and she states that questions on tax conformity outside of the package introduced by the Governor in EO 2015-15 should be decided through budget negotiations.

federal tax credit; authorization; scholarships (S.B. 1142) – VETOED

Declares the state's election to participate in the federal tax credit for individuals who make qualified contributions to scholarship granting organizations (SGOs) and requires the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) to administer the credit to ensure the state is eligible to participate

beginning January 1, 2027. A nonprofit that meets specified requirements may apply to ADOR for certification as an SGO. ADOR must annually submit a list of certified SGOs to the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury and, beginning January 1, 2027, certified SGOs may begin providing scholarships to eligible students for any qualified education expenses.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that signing S.B. 1142 before the federal government has released any regulatory guidance is irresponsible.

DOR; income tax forms; conformity (S.B. 1180) – VETOED

Requires the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR), when prescribing income tax forms and instructions, to assume that the Legislature will enact an amendment to state law that results in conformity to the provisions of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, as outlined. Prescribes a timeline for ADOR to supplement the annual tax forms and instructions when nonconformity occurs for a taxable year.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that ADOR has not deviated from the previous practice of assuming full conformity, so legislation is not needed to address the issue.

health insurance; reimbursement rates; vaccines (S.B. 1212) – VETOED

Prohibits, beginning January 1, 2027, a health care insurer from reimbursing a health professional at a different rate based on a covered individual's vaccination status.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that Arizona law already provides robust exemptions to immunization requirements and expresses concern that diseases that were once eliminated are making a comeback in playgrounds and classrooms.

tax laws; interpretation; application; hearing (S.B. 1221) – 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. 1221 would politicize the administration of Arizona's tax code and interfere with responsibilities in the Arizona Constitution.

GPLET; abatement; limitation (S.B. 1293) – 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.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1293 would potentially harm economic development in Arizona.

undocumented aliens; financial services (S.B. 1421) – VETOED

SEE THE MILITARY AFFAIRS & BORDER SECURITY COMMITTEE.

~~bullion depository; state monies; treasurer~~ (NOW: treasurer; investment; bullion) (H.B. 2140) – VETOED

Requires the State Treasurer to invest up to 10 percent of state trust and treasury monies in physical gold or silver bullion that is held in a qualified commercial depository.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that she has confidence that the state's investment portfolio is sufficiently diversified to protect taxpayer assets over the long term.

property tax; agricultural real property (H.B. 2261) – VETOED

Replaces the terms *property used for agricultural purposes* and *land used for agricultural purposes* with the term *agricultural real property* and makes various changes to the statutes governing agricultural property. Specifies that the class 2 agricultural property subclassification that consists of real property and improvements includes property used as agricultural real property, rather than property used for agricultural purposes. Requires property classified as agricultural real property, rather than land used for agricultural purposes, to be valued using only the income approach to value without any allowance for urban or market influences.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that it would be premature to change this statute while it is the subject of litigation pending a decision by the Arizona Supreme Court.

truth in taxation; bonds; notices (H.B. 2289) – VETOED

Adds the tax rate and estimated cost associated with each proposed capital improvement for a single-family home valued at $300,000 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 $300,000 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 $300,000 and a commercial property valued at $2,000,000.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that she continues to have confidence that Arizona voters understand what they are doing when they vote in a school district bond election.

conformity; internal revenue code; deductions (H.B. 2785/S.B. 1638) – VETOED

Retroactive to January 1, 2025, updates the statutory definition of *Internal Revenue Code* to include all federal provisions in effect as of January 1, 2026, with the specific adoption of all retroactive effective dates.

Replaces the Arizona-specific standard deduction by coupling with the federal standard deduction and establishes individual income tax subtractions for the amount received during the taxable year that is deducted under the relevant federal income tax deduction for qualified tips, overtime compensation, senior income and passenger vehicle loan interest. For taxable years beginning January 1, 2026, allows a taxpayer that takes the standard deduction to increase the deduction by an amount equal to the total amount of the taxpayer's charitable contributions, rather than up to 25 percent of qualifying contributions, and prescribes a charitable contribution deduction cap.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that her position on tax conformity remains clear and that anything more than what was introduced by the Governor in EO 2015-15 should be negotiated through the budget process.

social credit; use; prohibition (H.B. 2903) – VETOED

Prohibits the state from requiring a bank or financial institution to use a social credit score when evaluating whether to lend money to a customer.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2903 is unnecessary.

Government Committee

Senator Jake Hoffman, Chairperson



Anna Nguyen, Research Analyst
Kati Pratt, Assistant Research Analyst
Tatum Ross, Intern

GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

county abatement liens; notice; priority (S.B. 1067) – Chapter 66

SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.

cities; towns; counties; posting; website (S.B. 1167) – Chapter 152

Allows a city, town or county to satisfy any statutory requirement for advertising, publishing or printing by posting the required public notice on the official website of the city, town or county and on the official website of a newspaper that is qualified to publish public notices, except the posting authority does not apply to a notice of a proposed city charter. A city, town or county that posts public notices on its official website must include a public notices link on the home page that links to all statutorily required public notices listed by category.

HOAs; uniformed services division flags (S.B. 1184) – Chapter 154

Precludes a condominium unit owners' association (COA) or a planned community association from prohibiting the outdoor display of a U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Space Force or Coast Guard division flag.

Removes the specification that a COA or managing agent that violates the statutory signage and open house prohibitions for a condominium that is for sale, lease or rent forfeits and extinguishes the common expense lien rights against the unit for six consecutive months after the date of the violation.

motor vehicle booting; fees; regulation (S.B. 1205) – Chapter 156

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

~~homeowners' associations; foreclosure process~~ (NOW: HOAs; expense liens; special assessment) (S.B. 1246) – Chapter 162

Modifies the conditions that allow a condominium unit owners' association (COA) 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. For any COA or planned community association special assessment with an initial value of $10,000 or more, only the 18-month delinquency threshold applies.

businesses; crime reporting; penalty; prohibition (S.B. 1271) – Chapter 166

Prohibits a municipality from imposing a fine or penalty on a business or commercial entity (business) based on the number or frequency of requests for public safety assistance or emergency services made by the business or based on the monetary value of property that has been damaged

or stolen, except if: 1) the request for public safety assistance or emergency services is malicious, knowingly false or frivolous; and 2) the municipality has provided the business with written notice that the municipality has determined that prior requests for public safety assistance or emergency services were malicious, knowingly false or frivolous.

~~agricultural property; inspections; notice.~~ (NOW: open meetings; planned communities) (S.B. 1290) – Chapter 222

Prohibits a planned community association board from taking action on an item under consideration during the closed portion of a meeting.

deeds; identification; forgery; notice; notaries (S.B. 1479) – Chapter 31

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

malicious delay; enforcement; penalty (S.B. 1566) – Chapter 71

Prohibits a city, town or county from maliciously delaying adopted licensing time frames for single-family residential construction or a response to an application for single-family residential construction. Based on a written complaint by a property owner with an application before a city, town or county, the Attorney General (AG) may enforce the prohibition. If the AG finds that a city, town or county violated the prohibition, the city, town or county may bring an action in a court with appropriate jurisdiction to challenge the malicious delay finding. A city, town or county found to have violated the prohibition is subject to a civil penalty of $5,000 per violation regardless of the duration of the delay. A plaintiff who files a complaint in superior court that asserts a malicious delay claim is entitled to expedited judicial review. Outlines requirements for a malicious delay claim and special action relief.

reviser's technical corrections; 2026 (S.B. 1613) – Chapter 184

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

~~Arizona space commission; board; membership~~ (NOW: utility relocation notification) (S.B. 1620) – Chapter 235

Requires a municipality to develop a process for a telecommunications utility to apply for reimbursement of facility relocation costs and to provide the utility with public notice of any voter-approved municipal bond project at least 30 days before a request to relocate the utility's facility.

homeowners' associations; allied countries' flags (S.B. 1808) – Chapter 243

Precludes a condominium unit owners' association or planned community association from prohibiting the display of a flag from a nation that is allied with the United States as a major non-NATO ally and that was established on May 14, 1948.

~~photo enforcement systems; prohibition~~ (NOW: photo enforcement systems; voter approval) (S.C.R. 1004)

SEE THE APPROPRIATIONS, TRANSPORTATION & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE.

~~educator salary increases; school reporting~~ (NOW: instructional expenses; operational spending; enforcement) (S.C.R. 1032/H.C.R. 2007)

SEE THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Buffalo Soldiers Arizona territory monument (H.B. 2062) – Chapter 38

Authorizes the Legislative Council to provide for the placement of a memorial dedicated to the Buffalo Soldiers in the Wesley Bolin Plaza by October 1, 2027. All fundraising and contracts for artistic design and construction are the responsibility of the proponents of the memorial.

county water augmentation authorities; bond (H.B. 2098) – Chapter 42

SEE THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

tourism advisory council; representation (H.B. 2258) – Chapter 52

Modifies the representation for the Tourism Advisory Council by adding La Paz County to Area 4, which currently consists of Mohave County and Yuma County.

fire code; municipalities; county buildings (H.B. 2324) – Chapter 57

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

identifying information; records; confidentiality (H.B. 2327) – Chapter 198

Specifies that an eligible person may request that the general public be prohibited from accessing the person's identifying information in recorded instruments maintained by the county recorder, except an eligible person's voter registration record.

homeowners' associations; shade structures (H.B. 2342) – Chapter 90

Precludes a planned community association (HOA) from prohibiting the backyard installation or use of a shade structure and allows an HOA to adopt reasonable rules regarding the size, placement or appearance of a shade structure, as prescribed.

homeowners' associations; property covenants; disclosures (H.B. 2397) – Chapter 249

Modifies the contents of and delivery requirements for a condominium unit owners' association (COA) or planned community association (HOA) disclosure packet and requires all

information provided in a disclosure packet to be based on the good faith reliance on COA or HOA records or information, without the need for independent investigation or validation. Adds, to the contents of a COA disclosure packet: 1) a statement as to whether a portion of the unit is covered by the COA's insurance and a copy of all insurance certificates identifying the COA's coverage and deductibles; 2) a statement identifying whether any corporation or limited liability company owns and leases 35 percent or more of the units; and 3) any known material deficiency or condition of the limited common elements associated with the unit or common elements for which the purchaser will be liable for the directly assessed repair costs within six months of purchase.

A member may request that the COA or HOA update the disclosure packet if 30 or more days have passed since the date of the original packet. If a purchaser or seller is damaged by the failure of the appropriate party to disclose the required information or if the appropriate party knowingly or recklessly provides materially false or misleading statements in the disclosure packet, the purchaser or seller may pursue all remedies at law or in equity.

PFAS; firefighting foam; prohibition (H.B. 2641) – Chapter 103

Beginning January 1, 2029, prohibits a person, local government or state agency from discharging or using class B firefighting foam that contains intentionally added PFAS chemicals for any purpose, unless required by federal regulation. Exempts the owner or operator of a public airport from the prohibition until January 1, 2031.

shooting range; closure; conditions (H.B. 2763) – Chapter 255

SEE THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

~~notary public; examination; repeal~~ (NOW: public hearing definition; hearing officer) (H.B. 2837) – Chapter 114

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

local regulation; prohibition; unmanned aircraft (H.B. 2875) – Chapter 116

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

public bodies; executive sessions; agenda (H.B. 2876) – Chapter 62

Prohibits a public body from placing any proposal to impose or increase a tax or fee on the consent agenda for a meeting of the public body. Any matter discussed in executive session that requires a final vote or decision of a public body must be placed on the regular agenda.

HOAs; duties (H.B. 4011) – Chapter 125

Determines that a condominium unit owners' association and planned community association have a duty to act reasonably in the exercise of its discretionary powers.

Barbara Leff; memorial (H.B. 4087) – Chapter 63

Authorizes the Legislative Council to provide for the placement of a memorial dedicated to Barbara Leff in the Governmental Mall by October 1, 2029. All fundraising and contracts for artistic design and construction are the responsibility of the proponents of the memorial.

~~minimum wage; exception; homeless~~ (NOW: school districts; labor organizations; resources) (H.C.R. 2040)

SEE THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

preferential treatment; discrimination; prohibited acts (H.C.R. 2044)

Subject to voter approval, constitutionally prohibits the state or a city, town, county, public university, community college district, school district or political subdivision from: 1) compelling an applicant, employee, student or contractor to endorse or support giving preferential treatment to or discriminating against any individual on the basis of race or ethnicity as a condition of any admission, graduation, hiring, promotion, certification, contracting or any other employment or scholarship opportunity; 2) spending public monies to operate or contract for any office or position at a public educational institution that promotes preferential treatment toward or discrimination against an individual or group on the basis of race or ethnicity; or 3) implementing any disciplinary policy or practice that treats a student or employee differently on the basis of race or ethnicity. 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

SNAP; TANF; public welfare; verification (S.B. 1002/H.B. 2797) – 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 DES has already taken steps to improve the accuracy of SNAP benefit determinations and that S.B. 1002 would duplicate these efforts and disrupt agency operations. The Governor further states that S.B. 1002 imposes unfunded mandates.

public employees; merit; hiring practices (S.B. 1013) – VETOED

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

unemployment benefits; requirements; disqualifications; determinations (S.B. 1036/H.B. 2690) – 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. 1036 creates unnecessary delays for workers, burdens for employers and costs for the state.

public records; review standard (S.B. 1078) – VETOED

Deems that the court's standard of review for a question regarding a denial of access to public records, including whether any exception to disclosure applies, is de novo.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1078 is unnecessary and that the courts are capable of addressing issues regarding standards of review.

state; local public benefits; eligibility (S.B. 1338) – VETOED

Removes, from the definition of *state or local public benefit*, the exclusion of benefits provided by the public retirement systems and plans. A person is ineligible to receive any state or local public benefit if: 1) the person's presence in the United States is not authorized by federal law; 2) the person is a foreign national who is paroled into the United States by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security; or 3) the person is a foreign national who has indicated an

intention to apply for asylum in the United States, but whose application has not been adjudicated in the affirmative.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that while she agrees with Arizona law requiring proof of lawful presence to access public benefits, S.B. 1338 is an attack on Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals recipients and other lawful residents who pay their taxes and earn retirement savings the same way every state employee does.

~~municipalities; counties; recycling; prohibition~~ (NOW: Charlie Kirk memorial; special plate) (S.B. 1439/H.B. 2112) – VETOED

SEE THE APPROPRIATIONS, TRANSPORTATION & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE.

budget procedures; late filing penalty (H.B. 2015) – VETOED

Requires a state organization that is included in the state's federal financial reporting requirement to submit all necessary, accurate and complete final federal expenditure or program information to the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) to meet the federal single audit requirements and deadlines. If an organization fails to submit accurate and complete final financial statements or information by the statutory deadline, ADOA must assess a late penalty, as prescribed. Caps the total penalty that may be assessed in any fiscal year at the lesser of $8,000,000 or one percent of an organization's state General Fund appropriation for the fiscal year in which the penalty is assessed.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that state agencies provide critical services to Arizonans and should not be punished for leveraging a once in a generation influx of federal funding.

vaccination mandates; masks; prohibition (H.B. 2086) – VETOED

SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.

small land subdivision; requirements (H.B. 2100) – VETOED

Allows each county board of supervisors to adopt ordinances and regulations that allow for small land subdivisions of 6 to 10 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 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.

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 days after the actual discovery by the Arizona Department of Real Estate.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that, at a time when Arizonans are being harmed by wildcat development and rural groundwater depletion, the state should be strengthening consumer protections, not weakening them.

mobile food vendors; licensure (H.B. 2118) – VETOED

Prohibits a city or town from requiring a mobile food vendor to obtain a local regulatory permit or license.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that cities and towns should retain local control to license and regulate businesses operating within the city's or town's jurisdiction.

state contracts; foreign adversary; prohibition (H.B. 2170) – VETOED

SEE THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.

SNAP; error rate; forensic audit (H.B. 2206/S.B. 1333) – VETOED

SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.

Arizona geological survey; analysis; division (H.B. 2262) – VETOED

SEE THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

business property; theft; penalties; prohibition (H.B. 2460) – VETOED

Declares the imposition of an ordinance, rule or regulation that penalizes a business for the theft of the business's movable property to be a matter of statewide concern and preempts further regulation by a municipality or county. Defines *movable property* as tangible property that is owned by a business that is intended for temporary use by customers, including shopping carts and hand-held baskets. A municipality or county may: 1) notify a business of the location of the business's movable property and allow the business to retrieve the property without imposing any fee; 2) institute criminal or civil penalties against a person who is responsible for the theft of a business's movable property; or 3) enact general nuisance abatement ordinances, rules or regulations that do not specifically include imposing a penalty on a business for the theft of the business's movable property.

Allows the Attorney General or any business to bring an action regarding the prohibited regulation of the theft of a business's movable property and entitles a business that prevails to reasonable attorney fees and costs. Designates this legislation as the *Completely Asinine Rule Termination (CART) Act*.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2460 delves into a local issue that is best resolved between businesses and their local elected leaders.

legislative subpoena; perjury; refusal; contempt (H.B. 2745) – VETOED

Allows a legislative committee to hold a witness in contempt for neglecting to obey a legislative subpoena if, after the witness is given notice and an opportunity for a hearing to present evidence as to why the witness is not in contempt, an order of contempt for failure to comply with the subpoena is issued by the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives or any committee chairperson. A county sheriff may arrest a witness who neglects or refuses to obey a legislative subpoena.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that holding individuals in contempt should be left to the full legislative body.

attorney general; legal counsel; exemption (H.B. 4049) – VETOED

Allows the Department of Child Safety (DCS) to employ legal counsel or pay for legal services and requires the Attorney General (AG) or any appointed counsel to represent the state's interests, and not DCS as a client, in any dependency, severance, guardianship or adoption proceeding in which a party, the court or an oversight entity raises a credible allegation that DCS or a DCS agent has: 1) failed to comply with a court order or statutory child safety requirements; 2) made a material misrepresentation to the court; 3) presented incomplete, misleading or false evidence; or 4) engaged in retaliation, gross negligence or willful misconduct. In any proceeding representing the state's interest, the AG or any appointed counsel must conduct an independent review of the record and advise the court of the legal assessment regarding statutory compliance, evidentiary integrity and the appropriateness of DCS's recommendation.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 4049 would create unnecessary conflict, delays in juvenile court proceedings and unfunded mandates for DCS and the AG.

~~technical correction; double punishment~~ (NOW: legislators; public records; fees; exemption) (H.B. 4056) – VETOED

Prohibits a legislator from being charged a fee for a public records request and requires the public record to be made available in any format requested by the legislator.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 4056 creates a different standard for legislators that weaponizes the public records process when a legislator has a grievance.

Health & Human Services Committee

Senator Carine Werner, Chairperson



Michael Madden, Research Analyst
Sam Rosenberg, Assistant Research Analyst
Makenna Schouten, Intern

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

optometrists; eye exams; prescriptions (S.B. 1023) – Chapter 6

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

service of process; evaluation agencies (S.B. 1113) – Chapter 214

Modifies service of process requirements for court-ordered evaluation and court-ordered treatment proceedings by authorizing screening and evaluation agency employees to serve required petitions, notices and related documents on a proposed patient who is admitted to a screening or evaluation agency at the time a petition for evaluation or treatment is filed. Allows a city, town or county to contract with a screening agency or evaluation agency to provide service of process and specifies reimbursement and financial responsibility requirements.

radiation protection systems; medical procedures (S.B. 1121) – Chapter 142

Prohibits a hospital that performs cardiac catheterization procedures involving real-time x-ray imaging from requiring health professionals to wear lead aprons during those procedures if the procedure room is equipped with a radiation protection system. A hospital's radiation safety officer or designee may require radiation protection equipment if it is determined that staff exposure will approach occupational dose thresholds or elevated exposure according to the *as low as reasonably achievable* standard. A hospital must instruct health professionals to wear a real-time dosimeter to monitor radiation exposure if the health professional chooses not to wear a lead apron because the procedure room is equipped with a radiation protection system.

medical examiners; authorized persons (S.B. 1123) – Chapter 33

Requires a licensed physician to be trained, rather than board-certified, in forensic pathology in order to supervise autopsies performed by medical students or residents and fellows in pathology training. A medical student, resident or fellow in pathology training may perform specified functions of the county medical examiner under the supervision of a licensed physician who is trained in forensic pathology.

DCS; memorandum of understanding; tribes (S.B. 1125) – Chapter 10

Requires the Department of Child Safety (DCS) to make annual efforts to enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with each Indian tribe in Arizona that does not already have an MOU. Each MOU must: 1) require DCS to share best practices, policies, training materials and operational standards relating to DCS administration; 2) identify a designated DCS tribal liaison who is assigned to the specific tribe and who will coordinate tribal communications, provide technical assistance and support collaboration with the tribe on child welfare matters; and

3) establish a process that allows the specific tribe to access outlined regulatory actions, licensing actions, investigations and enforcement measures taken by DCS against any DCS-licensed group home in which a child who is a member of the tribe is placed.

behavior analysts; committee; regulatory authority (S.B. 1145) – Chapter 148

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

~~health care institutions; licensing; complaints~~ (NOW: health care institutions; licensing; compliance) (S.B. 1162) – Chapter 149

Requires the Department of Health Services (DHS) and the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) to coordinate to review monitoring and compliance functions related to health care institution licensing. Outlines review requirements and instructs DHS and AHCCCS to identify opportunities to eliminate or reduce duplicative or inconsistent requirements and coordinate or align policies, procedures and operational practices to minimize administrative burdens on health care institutions while maintaining patient safety and appropriate regulatory oversight. By December 31, 2026, and October 31 every four years thereafter, DHS must submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Chairpersons of the Health and Human Services Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives.

Establishes a scope of practice, and prescribes minimum qualifications and training requirements for, behavioral health technicians (BHTs). Authorizes BHTs to provide specified services consistent with the BHT's training, delegation and supervision, including implementing treatment and recovery plans, providing skills training and supportive counseling, assisting with medication self-administration, contributing to client assessment and service planning and providing case management and other supportive services. By December 31, 2026, AHCCCS and DHS must review all BHT rules and policies to ensure alignment with statutory requirements.

ALTCS; providers; change of ownership (S.B. 1164) – Chapter 150

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

insurance; cost sharing; breast exams (S.B. 1165) – Chapter 151

SEE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

~~ballots; categories; count~~ (NOW: licensees; exemptions; business entities) (S.B. 1168) – Chapter 72

Exempts a recognized dental school, dental therapy school or dental hygiene school from business entity or facility registration requirements with the Arizona Board of Dental Examiners (BODEX). Requires a recognized dental school to annually provide BODEX a list of the licensed dentists, dental therapists and dental hygienists that the school employs to practice in the school's clinical departments or laboratories. If BODEX receives a complaint that names a recognized

dental school or that arises from dental care provided at a school, BODEX must forward the complaint to the school within six months. After receiving a complaint forwarded by BODEX, the recognized dental school must review the complaint in accordance with the school's internal quality assurance process. BODEX does not have jurisdiction or authority over a person who is acting in the scope of practice for clinical departments or laboratories of a recognized dental, dental therapy or dental hygiene school, with certain exceptions.

~~DCS; intake hotline; multiple reports~~ (NOW: deficiencies; denial; credentialing) (S.B. 1172) – Chapter 67

Requires the Department of Economic Security (DES) to grant an applicant, whose credentialing or recredentialing application was denied, 14 business days to correct any application deficiencies that led to the denial. If an applicant corrects all deficiencies within the 14-day period, DES must reevaluate the application. If DES denies an application after reevaluation and does not initiate a contract action within 14 business days, the applicant may appeal the decision through the statutory administrative hearings and appeals process. DES must adopt rules to implement the credentialing deficiency correction process by June 30, 2027.

DCS; intake hotline; case history (S.B. 1174) – Chapter 153

Beginning January 1, 2027, requires the Department of Child Safety (DCS) central intake hotline to generate a single report that shows the entire history of a child and the child's siblings who have been the subject of prior hotline calls or DCS investigations. Upon receipt of a call, a hotline worker must review the narrative of every call received for that child in the previous 90 days and may use calls that did not meet the criteria for a DCS report when determining if a new allegation meets the DCS report criteria.

Requires DCS to assign investigations involving four or more reports of abuse or neglect by the same caregiver in less than 12 months to a child safety specialist with at least two years of experience or advanced forensic training. DCS must disclose to the court a hotline call that alleges abuse or neglect of a child who is the subject of a dependency action.

approved medications; scheduling; prescription authority (S.B. 1188) – Chapter 216

Aligns Arizona controlled substance schedules with federal scheduling by specifying that any compound, mixture or preparation approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and scheduled or rescheduled by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration is assigned the same schedule under Arizona law and may be prescribed if not listed as a Schedule I substance.

personal identifying information; disclosure; prohibition (S.B. 1193) – Chapter 155

Prohibits the Department of Health Services (DHS) from selling any personal identifying information of any individual licensed or certified by DHS and from selling or disclosing any personal identifying information of an emergency medical care technician (EMCT), except DHS may disclose the information with the EMCT's consent. The personal identifying information of

DHS licensees and certificate holders and EMCTs is confidential and exempt from public records laws if the request is made for a commercial purpose. DHS may disclose an EMCT's personal identifying information if the information has been de-identified or aggregated and does not reasonably allow for the identification of the EMCT.

EMS reciprocity; compact. (S.B. 1235) – Chapter 159

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

mental health; hearings; audiovisual technology (S.B. 1242) – Chapter 160

Allows the court, on its own motion or for good cause shown by a party, to order mental health evaluation and treatment hearings, or specified testimony by a party or witness during the hearing, including individuals placed in secure behavioral health residential facilities (SBHRFs), to be conducted virtually by way of telephone, videoconferencing or another audiovisual technology if the court finds that doing so will not unfairly prejudice a party or witness. In determining whether use of audiovisual technology is appropriate, the court must consider the inconvenience to, or burden on, a party or witness to attend the proceeding in person and the ability of all parties to be heard by other parties in attendance. Authorizes the Arizona Supreme Court to adopt procedures for conducting virtual mental health hearings.

Retroactive to May 1, 2025, a mental health treatment agency that supervises a patient's court-ordered treatment and the SBHRF in which the patient is placed must coordinate the patient's care pursuant to Department of Health Services rules or Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System requirements.

court-ordered treatment; guardians; notice; release (S.B. 1243) – Chapter 161

SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.

~~assisted living centers; occupants~~ (NOW: assisted living; occupants) (S.B. 1247) – Chapter 14 E

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

safe haven providers; hospital deliveries (S.B. 1253) – Chapter 163

Allows a parent or parent's agent to surrender a newborn infant to the general hospital or rural general hospital of birth without requiring the parent to first be discharged from or leave the hospital after the birth and subsequently return to complete the surrender. If the parent notifies a hospital staff member of the intent to voluntarily surrender the newborn infant and not return, the hospital must immediately take custody of the infant. The Department of Child Safety must include the number of newborn infants surrendered at safe haven providers in its statutorily required report on safe haven providers.

mammography results; notice; repeal (S.B. 1318) – Chapter 169

Repeals the requirement for health care institutions and facilities to include a notice in a patient's mammography summary regarding the risks of breast cancer for patients identified as having heterogeneously dense or extremely dense breasts.

~~health facilities; anonymous complaints; prohibition~~ (NOW: health facilities; licensure; surveys) (S.B. 1345) – Chapter 171

Requires the Department of Health Services (DHS) to approve or deny an initial health care institution license application within 90 days of receipt and to review and submit third-party accreditation survey results to the Medicare administrative contractor for certification within 30 days of receipt, in accordance with U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services requirements. Authorizes the Director of DHS to establish, by rule, fees for initial licensure inspections of health care institutions.

prepaid capitated contractors; cost reports (S.B. 1399) – Chapter 225

Requires, by December 1, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) to submit an annual report to the Governor and Legislature detailing the percentage of monies spent in the previous contract year, aggregated for all nongovernment entities that have a prepaid capitated contract with AHCCCS, on: 1) direct payments to providers for services; and 2) outlined categories of administrative costs.

social workers; documentation; dialysis centers (S.B. 1446) – Chapter 176

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

~~technical correction; open pit mining~~ (NOW: health insurance; patient steering; prohibition) (S.B. 1494) – Chapter 180

Prohibits health care providers, health care institutions and drug manufacturers from paying health insurance premiums or subscription fees on behalf of a health plan enrollee and prohibits insurance producers from knowingly submitting false information about an individual's eligibility for or enrollment in a health benefits plan. Exempts specified enrollment assistance, case management, care coordination and patient consultation activities from health plan enrollment and referral restrictions. Nurses, physicians and health care institution licensees may not advise a patient to enroll in or disenroll from a specific health plan unless the licensee or staff member is a licensed insurance producer. Any person who offers, pays, solicits or receives remuneration related to health plan enrollment or patient referrals is subject to criminal and civil penalties.

Prohibits an insurance producer from offering or receiving any commissions or kickbacks for patient referrals to or from a sober living home and prohibits life or disability insurance rebates from including the payment of an enrollee’s health insurance premiums or subscription fees by a health care professional, health care institution or drug manufacturer.

DCS; policies; procedures (S.B. 1496) – Chapter 181

Requires the court to appoint an attorney for a child in all dependency or termination of parental rights proceedings before the first hearing. The attorney must determine whether the child has diminished capacity that would impact the child's ability to express opinions or make decisions by consulting with the child, individuals who know the child and the child's family or the family's authorized representative. If the attorney reasonably believes that a child does not have the capacity to act in the child's own interest and is at risk of harm, the attorney must request the court to appoint a guardian ad litem for the child. Each county office that employs attorneys who represent children in dependency or termination of parental rights proceedings must submit specified child representation data to the Governor and Legislature by January 15, 2027.

The Department of Child Safety (DCS) must file an initial report regarding attempts to identify potential placements for a child taken into temporary custody and submit updated reports at each subsequent report and review or permanency planning hearing. If a child was already receiving benefits before entering DCS care or if DCS applies for benefits on a child's behalf, DCS must apply to serve as the representative payee for the child until another individual is appointed to serve as the representative payee. DCS may stop search efforts for a child's permanent placement after a permanency hearing determines that the child is placed with a prospective permanent placement, with certain exceptions.

Allows DCS to provide notice of a child's disappearance either in writing or telephonically, rather than requiring both, and clarifies that determinations by DCS and administrative law judges regarding allegations of child abuse or neglect are based on a preponderance of the evidence, rather than the presence of probable cause.

Modifies the rights granted to foster children to: 1) specify that health services afforded to foster children must be immediate and unbiased; 2) add the right to voluntary participation in enrichment activities; and 3) add the right to be free of bullying or discrimination. A caregiver, home, employee or facility where a child in the care of DCS is placed may not take, threaten or cause retaliatory action against a child for reporting a suspected violation or participating in an inquiry or investigation of a violation of the foster child's personal rights.

assisted living; notice; study committee (S.B. 1561) – Chapter 182

Reestablishes the 25-member Vulnerable Adult System Study Committee (Study Committee) to examine and make recommendations regarding the coordination, oversight and delivery of services to vulnerable adults. Outlines Study Committee membership, powers, duties and reporting requirements and terminates the Study Committee on January 1, 2029.

Requires an assisted living facility discharge or eviction notice to provide a statement of the resident's rights.

electronic monitoring; long-term care (S.B. 1564) – Chapter 183

Requires, by December 1, 2026, or on initial licensure, each assisted living facility and nursing care institution to disclose to the Department of Health Services (DHS) whether the facility: 1) allows residents to install an electronic monitoring device in the resident's room or

personal space; 2) uses electronic monitoring devices in common areas; or 3) uses technology that allows the entity to monitor and identify who enters and exits a resident's room and the activity of the person while in the room. An assisted living facility and nursing care institution licensee must notify DHS of any subsequent changes in the entity's electronic monitoring device policy and DHS must post each entity's electronic monitoring status on its public website.

~~home; community based services; mental illness~~ (NOW: enhanced residential treatment; SMI) (S.B. 1630) – Chapter 237

Establishes the three-year Seriously Mentally Ill (SMI) Enhanced Residential Treatment Pilot Program (Pilot Program) within the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), subject to approval by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (U.S. CMS), to provide enhanced residential treatment services for adults who are determined to be SMI. AHCCCS must seek any necessary federal authority and approval to implement the Pilot Program by July 1, 2027, and begin enrolling individuals within one year of receiving federal approval, subject to available appropriations. If U.S. CMS denies or does not approve the request, AHCCCS must pursue approval through legislatively approved modifications, resubmissions or alternative federal authority and report the status of approval efforts in a semiannual implementation update. Requires the Department of Health Services to license enhanced residential treatment facilities and adopt rules for licensure, staffing and physical plant standards. *Enhanced residential treatment services* are services authorized under Federal Medicaid Authority that support individuals in an enhanced residential treatment facility and that include continuous supervision, structured support services, medication administration and monitoring, treatment planning and coordination and personal care services necessary for health and safety.

A Pilot Program contractor must: 1) provide members with enhanced residential treatment services and all other services required under the contractor's agreement with AHCCCS for individuals who are SMI; and 2) develop and maintain a written service plan for each member and update that plan at least annually. A Pilot Program provider must comply with specified documentation, transition and discharge planning requirements and obtain contractor approval before discharging a member or issuing a nonemergency notice to vacate.

Pilot Program membership may not exceed 60 members, except that AHCCCS may increase the enrollment cap if it demonstrates that the Pilot Program could sustain additional members, subject to available appropriations and review by the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. Pilot Program eligibility is limited to adults who reside in Arizona, are determined to be SMI and meet specified enhanced level of care and financial eligibility requirements. An applicant must apply through a contractor, except that individuals who are not enrolled with a contractor may apply directly through AHCCCS.

Requires AHCCCS, or a delegated contractor, to report Pilot Program enrollment data and maintain a waitlist of up to 100 applicants. If the waitlist reaches 100 applicants, AHCCCS or the delegated contractor must implement an interest list and employ phased enrollment or other utilization controls. Prescribes the priority criteria for assigning available Pilot Program slots.

Establishes a grievance and appeal process for matters relating to Pilot Program eligibility, enrollment and services and requires AHCCCS to submit annual reports to the Governor and Legislature regarding Pilot Program enrollment, outcomes and fiscal impact.

DCS; sexual abuse allegations; interviews (S.B. 1631) – Chapter 185

Requires protocols for child abuse and neglect investigations to include a requirement that, for sexual abuse allegations, a trained forensic interviewer must conduct a forensic interview with the child immediately or within 72 hours after receiving the allegation, unless the Department of Child Safety shows good cause to delay the interview. A failure to meet initial screening, safety assessment and investigation protocols does not affect the admissibility of evidence or statements made by a child in any criminal, civil or dependency proceeding.

~~AHCCCS; procurement; contracting~~ (NOW: independent testing; treatment; pharmacists) (S.B. 1713) – Chapter 241

Authorizes a pharmacist, under a statewide written protocol approved by the Arizona State Board of Pharmacy (Board), to independently order and interpret U.S. Food and Drug Administration-authorized tests waived under federal law and to initiate treatment for influenza, strep throat, COVID-19 or a condition related to an emerging or existing public health crisis. A pharmacist may initiate treatment for eligible persons who are at least 12 years old or the minimum age authorized by the treatment, whichever is older. A pharmacist may also initiate and dispense human immunodeficiency virus preexposure prophylaxis and postexposure prophylaxis under the Board's statewide written protocol. Prescribes requirements for the Board's statewide written protocol and for pharmacists who initiate treatment, including notification to the patient's primary care doctor, dosing limits and patient care and recordkeeping requirements.

Requires the Board to establish the Independent Testing and Treatment Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee) to assist in developing the state's protocols for pharmacists' independent authority to order testing and initiate treatments and outlines Advisory Committee membership and duties.

substance use disorder treatment; committee (S.B. 1814) – Chapter 189

Establishes the 18-member Substance Use Disorder Treatment Standards and Oversight Study Committee (Study Committee) to: 1) assess the availability, capacity and geographic distribution of licensed and unlicensed substance use disorder specialty care programs and evaluate the impact of statewide minimum standards for evidence-based care; 2) identify gaps in access to and implementation of evidence-based treatment and related workforce and resource needs; 3) review oversight structures, identify regulatory loopholes and recommend statutory and administrative changes; 4) establish minimum clinical quality, safety, reporting and transparency standards; and 5) investigate funding and reimbursement needs to implement recommended reforms. Outlines Study Committee membership and duties and requires the Study Committee to submit a report detailing its activities, findings and recommendations to the Governor, Legislature and Secretary of State by December 1, 2027. Terminates the Study Committee on July 1, 2028.

DCS; training; child placement; management (S.B. 1821) – Chapter 190

Allows an audit team that is placed within the Department of Child Safety (DCS) by the Auditor General, and that is acting under an audit plan reviewed by the Joint Legislative Budget

Committee, to review DCS's management of the case management system that is used to track the placement and location of children in DCS care. Deems the placement of a child by DCS with a parent, relative or person with a significant relationship with the child to be the priority placement. DCS may conduct unannounced visits and inspections of any licensed group foster home or home where a child in the care and custody of DCS is placed in kinship foster care.

DCS must require each newly hired child safety worker to spend at least one year working and training under the supervision of an experienced child safety worker.

DCS; kinship care placement; requirement (H.B. 2035) – Chapter 76

Presumes that it is in the best interest of a child in the temporary custody of the Department of Child Safety (DCS) to be placed with a kinship caregiver. Adds extended family members to the list of persons who qualify as kinship foster care placements and requires extended family members to be included in procedures relating to the search for kinship caregivers. An *extended family member* is an adult person who has a connection to a child by marriage to a biological family member or adopted family member of the child. At a preliminary protective hearing, the court must presume that placement with an adult relative, extended family member or a person with a significant relationship with the child is in the child's best interests and, if such placement is available and in the child's best interests, order the child to be placed accordingly.

Modifies the rights granted to foster children to include the right to: 1) be placed with or in close proximity to a sibling when possible and to visit and have contact with siblings and family members if doing so does not pose a safety risk to the child or a sibling; 2) be placed with an adult relative, extended family member or person with a significant relationship with the child; and 3) be updated at least every 30 days on the status of DCS's efforts to place the child in kinship foster care or in a care setting with the child's siblings, if requested by the child. A foster child's rights must be posted in a conspicuous place in all group foster homes.

radiation therapy; rural counties (H.B. 2049) – Chapter 77 E

An emergency measure effective June 4, 2026, that requires the Department of Health Services to allow the use of a particle accelerator to treat human diseases under general supervision in counties with a population of fewer than 400,000 persons and at critical access hospitals, if specified conditions are met. The registrant must meet specified review and documentation requirements and must ensure that: 1) the device is not used during a special procedure; 2) written protocols are being followed; 3) an authorized user observes and documents an assessment of each technologist performing a procedure at least every six months; and 4) an authorized user is on site and available for consultation at least once every five working days. Before using general supervision for particle accelerator treatment, a registrant must develop, maintain and implement specified monitoring procedures.

radiologic technologists; radiologist assistants (H.B. 2050) – Chapter 37

Modifies Department of Health Services (DHS) standards for radiologic technologists and radiologist assistants and modifies DHS standards to approve a school of radiologic technology's

course of study by: 1) expanding allowable accrediting organizations; 2) removing the requirement for the course of study to be for a period of at least 24 months of full-time study or its equivalent; 3) reducing required clinical experience hours from 1,800 hours to 1,650 hours; and 4) expanding required classroom work and certification examination subjects.

DHS must allow for the general supervision of radiologist assistants in counties with a population of fewer than 500,000 persons and in health care institutions licensed as critical access hospitals, if the health care facility or radiologist establishes outlined protocols. DHS may prescribe application and renewal fees for mammographic and computed tomography technologist certificates and must adopt rules allowing a certified practical technologist in bone densitometry to apply ionizing radiation to a person's hips and spine. DHS may not require a licensed nurse practitioner to obtain any other license to use a diagnostic x-ray machine. Removes radiologic technologists from the definition of *health care provider* for telehealth purposes.

childhood cancer research; commission (H.B. 2082) – Chapter 79

Requires the Director of the Department of Health Services (DHS) to award grants to Arizona nonprofit health care providers and research institutions engaged in clinical trials relating to research on pediatric cancer and rare pediatric diseases.

Establishes the Childhood Cancer and Rare Childhood Disease Research Commission (Commission) and outlines Commission membership. The Commission must establish criteria for the clinical trials that qualify to receive grants and review grant applications to assist the Director of DHS in trial selection. Beginning August 1, 2027, the Commission must annually submit a report to the Legislature detailing the distributed grants, resulting research and other relevant information.

Expands the funding sources for the Childhood Cancer and Rare Childhood Disease Research Fund (Fund) to include legislative appropriations, gifts, donations and federal grants. If the Fund receives a legislative appropriation, federal grants or a combination thereof totaling at least $5,000,000, the Director of DHS must allocate Fund monies for the grants awarded by the Commission. If DHS does not receive the necessary funding, the Director of DHS must allocate Fund monies to Arizona nonprofit health care providers and research institutions engaged in clinical trials relating to research on pediatric cancer and rare pediatric diseases.

health facilities; licensure; complaints; investigations (H.B. 2176) – Chapter 83

Allows the Department of Health Services (DHS) to deny a health care institution license or change of ownership if approval would likely jeopardize patient or resident safety due to the applicant, an owner or a related party having a history of license denial, revocation or suspension or recent serious licensing violations in Arizona or another state. Establishes requirements for DHS complaint investigations, compliance inspections and issuing and disputing statements of deficiencies. DHS must provide notice when entering a health care institution for an investigation but may not investigate alleged violations that occurred more than 12 months before a complaint was submitted, unless the complaint involves abuse allegations. Outlines procedures for statements deficiencies issued after an investigation or inspection.

AHCCCS; waivers; American Indians; services (H.B. 2177) – Chapter 49

SEE THE FEDERALISM & FAMILY LAW COMMITTEE.

agency; chief medical officer; license (H.B. 2178) – Chapter 50

Requires any person serving as a chief medical officer for a state agency to possess an active license to practice medicine from the Arizona Medical Board or the Board of Osteopathic Examiners in Medicine and Surgery.

air ambulance services (H.B. 2179) – Chapter 51

Modifies the definition of *ambulance* to remove air vehicles and defines *air ambulance, air ambulance attendant* and *air ambulance service.* The ambulance standards, criteria and procedures adopted by the Director of the Department of Health Services (DHS) must require the staff of an air ambulance service providing interfacility transportation to include: 1) one attendant who is a physician, licensed nurse or nurse practitioner; and 2) one attendant who is a paramedic, licensed respiratory therapist or nurse. Statutes relating to DHS investigations of ambulance operations and services apply to air ambulances only to the extent that: 1) the proceedings relate to the emergency medical services provided; and 2) the investigation does not conflict with any federal law or regulation governing air carriers. Removes the requirement that DHS rules for air ambulance services must establish response and operation time standards.

licensed health aides; rules (H.B. 2189) – Chapter 84

Requires, by October 1, 2026, the Arizona State Board of Nursing to adopt rules to implement the scope of practice for licensed health aides. The rules must address: 1) updated standards, curriculum, training and eligibility requirements for licensed health aide training programs, including requirements to perform routine ventilator care; 2) required documentation from a licensed medical provider attesting that a patient is suitable for licensed health aide-level care; 3) an updated definition of *family member*; 4) standards of conduct and a discipline process for acting outside the standards of conduct; and 5) a process to collect data on the use and outcomes of licensed health aides in Arizona.

physician assistants; licensure compact (H.B. 2190/S.B. 1238) – Chapter 3

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

nursing facilities; records; surveys; timelines (H.B. 2195) – Chapter 85

Modifies Department of Health Services (DHS) oversight and investigation procedures for nursing care institutions and prescribes requirements for long-term care incident reports. Limits DHS access to specified nursing care institution records for each personnel member, employee or volunteer, including records relating to qualifications and experience.

Beginning January 1, 2027, DHS must issue statements of deficiencies to a nursing care institution within 10 business days after completing the state survey. For compliance inspections and complaint investigations, DHS may not investigate alleged violations that occurred more than 12 months before a complaint was submitted, unless the complaint involves abuse allegations. DHS must initiate complaint investigations consistent with time frames of the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, based on the triaged severity of each complaint. Allows DHS to conduct off-site preliminary reviews of complaints or self-reports to determine whether an on-site inspection is necessary and requires DHS to close a complaint if the licensee has implemented systems that make further violations unlikely.

~~technical correction; critical infrastructure information (NOW: dangerous incompetent defendants; out-of-state facilities)~~ (NOW: dangerous incompetent defendants; study committee) (H.B. 2307) – Chapter 12 E

An emergency measure effective April 2, 2026, that authorizes, until December 31, 2031, the placement of certain dangerous, incompetent and nonrestorable defendants (defendants) at the Arizona State Hospital (ASH) forensic campus when there are no beds available in a secure state mental health facility in Arizona. Outlines requirements for court orders authorizing placement at ASH. ASH may not accept more than one defendant with a primary psychiatric condition and may only accept defendants originating from a county with fewer than 400,000 persons.

If ASH reaches the maximum funded capacity for forensic programs, the ASH Superintendent must inform outlined county officials that ASH may not accept additional defendants and that the Department of Health Services (DHS) is not liable for costs or civil sanctions associated with ASH's inability to admit defendants. DHS must: 1) pay costs associated with the placement of a defendant at ASH; 2) conduct an analysis of the cost to staff and construct or renovate a secure state mental health facility on ASH grounds for defendants; and 3) submit the cost analysis to the Governor, Legislature and Secretary of State by November 1, 2026. Beginning October 1, 2026, the Administrative Office of the Courts must biannually report outlined data regarding defendants to the Governor, Legislature and Director of DHS.

Establishes the 19-member Study Committee on Secure State Mental Health Facilities (Study Committee) and outlines Study Committee membership. The Study Committee must make recommendations on the long-term feasibility of secure state mental health facilities or other care models and submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor, Legislature and Secretary of State by December 31, 2026. Terminates the Study Committee on January 1, 2027.

nursing board; regulatory actions; expungement (H.B. 2408) – Chapter 251

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

controlled substances prescription monitoring program (H.B. 2434) – Chapter 94

Modifies requirements for the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program (CSPMP) and removes the requirement for the CSPMP database to track controlled substance

consumption. Replaces the existing CSPMP Task Force with a CSPMP Compliance Workgroup and revises membership requirements.

Requires a medical practitioner to obtain a 12-month patient utilization report before prescribing or refilling an opioid or benzodiazepine and removes a medical practitioner's authority to waive that requirement. Beginning July 1, 2027, updates reporting requirements by requiring medical practitioners and pharmacies to report additional prescription data and to submit required prescription data within one business day, including reporting zero as a transaction. Requires the state's data submission guide to be used for CSPMP reporting and eliminates waivers from electronic reporting requirements.

~~candidate petitions; felony disclosure~~ (NOW: releasing medical records; promptness) (H.B. 2557) – Chapter 98

SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.

physicians; surgical centers; call coverage (H.B. 2686) – Chapter 106

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

~~nursing board; continuation~~ (NOW: health boards; DES; continuations) (H.B. 2729) – Chapter 254

Continues the Department of Economic Security, the Arizona State Board of Nursing, the Arizona Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners and the Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants for four years, until July 1, 2030, retroactive to July 1, 2026. Continues the Arizona State Board of Pharmacy for six years, until July 1, 2032, retroactive to July 1, 2026.

pharmacy board; renewals; ownership change (H.B. 2733) – Chapter 203

Excludes, from acts considered unprofessional conduct of a pharmacist or pharmacy intern, using employees or common carriers to deliver prescription medications to, or pick prescription medications up from, a long-term care facility, workplace or other patient-designated address, unless prohibited by federal law. Allows a pharmacist and pharmacy technician to complete continuing education requirements after submitting a license renewal application and paying the renewal fee. During a change of ownership, a business may continue operating under an existing pharmacy permit while a new permit application is under review, subject to specified conditions. The Arizona State Board of Pharmacy (Board) may deny continued operation of the pharmacy if there are public health or safety concerns or other compliance issues. Prohibits the wholesale or distribution of specified drugs, devices and related products without a valid Board-issued permit.

dental board; membership (H.B. 2906) – Chapter 118

Requires one of the six licensed dentist members on the State Board of Dental Examiners to be an oral or maxillofacial surgeon in active practice at the time of appointment.

court-ordered treatment; judicial review (H.B. 2923) – Chapter 120

Beginning January 1, 2027, modifies the judicial review process for persons receiving court-ordered mental health treatment. Allows a patient, or a person acting on the patient's behalf, to request judicial review of the patient's need for continued treatment, subject to a 60-day limitation between requests, with certain exceptions. Establishes procedures for submitting a judicial review request through the treating agency and requires the medical director to file the request and a current psychiatric report with the court within seven business days. The medical director must provide an opinion on whether the patient continues to meet the criteria for court-ordered treatment and, if the patient is willing to accept voluntary treatment, determine that court-ordered treatment is no longer needed. A patient must be informed of the right to consult with counsel and, if unrepresented, the court must appoint counsel. A notice must be provided to a patient's guardian, if applicable. The court must review a request within five judicial days and may decide the matter without a hearing or order additional proceedings as necessary. If the patient is to remain in treatment, the mental health treatment agency must prove by clear and convincing evidence that continued treatment is necessary.

pharmacy board; civil penalties. (H.B. 2953) – Chapter 207

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

LEGISLATION VETOED

medical examiners; sudden infant death (S.B. 1011) – VETOED

Requires a county medical examiner or forensic pathologist, in cases of a sudden and unexplained infant death, to: 1) review the infant's immunization and vaccination history and any countermeasures administered in the 90 days before the infant's death; and 2) report all such deaths to a national registry that records sudden and unexplained infant deaths and sudden death in the young in accordance with U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention protocols.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that Arizona law already provides robust exemptions to immunization requirements and expresses concern that diseases that were once eliminated are making a comeback in playgrounds and classrooms.

gender transition procedures; provider liability (S.B. 1015) – VETOED

SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.

hospitals; patient immigration status; reporting (S.B. 1051/H.B. 2689) – VETOED

Requires a hospital that accepts payment from the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) to include a place on patient admission or registration forms to indicate whether the patient is lawfully or unlawfully present 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 hospital must report quarterly to the Department of Health Services (DHS) the number of hospital admissions or emergency department visits made by patients who indicated citizenship status or declined to answer. DHS may adopt rules relating to 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.

By March 1 of each year, DHS must report to the Governor, Legislature and Secretary of State: 1) the total number of hospital admissions and emergency department visits by patients who indicated citizenship status or declined to answer; and 2) information on hospital funding needs and the costs and impact of uncompensated care on the ability of hospitals to provide services.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that federal law requires hospitals to provide emergency stabilization care to every person who needs it, regardless of where they are from or their ability to pay.

civil liability; gender reassignment surgery (S.B. 1094) – VETOED

Establishes civil liability for a physician who provides irreversible gender reassignment surgery on a minor for damages resulting from the surgery. A person who prevails in a civil action must be awarded actual damages, exemplary damages, court costs and reasonable attorney fees. Any action for recovery of damages must be filed within 20 years after the minor reaches 18 years old or 4 years after the minor undergoes detransition treatment, whichever is later.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1094 is unnecessary because it is already unlawful to perform gender transition surgery on minors in Arizona.

gender transition; minors; prohibitions (S.B. 1095) – VETOED

SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.

health boards; evaluations; notice (S.B. 1124) – VETOED

Requires a health profession regulatory board (health board) with probable cause to believe that a health professional may be unable to practice safely or competently to vote on whether to require a psychological or psychiatric evaluation of the professional. At least 14 days before the vote, the health board must provide a notice to the health professional that includes a summary of the action or complaint prompting consideration of the evaluation. The health professional may testify at the hearing and provide a written response to the notice, which the health board must consider before determining whether to require an evaluation. A health board that votes to require an evaluation must provide the health professional with a copy of the completed evaluation and, if no disciplinary or nondisciplinary action is taken, reimburse the professional for evaluation costs.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1124 is unfunded and would cost taxpayers and prevent regulators from protecting the public from potentially dangerous conduct.

~~AHCCCS; dual enrollment; notice~~ (NOW: fingerprinting; behavioral health facilities) (S.B. 1171) – VETOED

Requires, as a condition for licensure, each applicant, licensee, owner and controlling person of any of the following behavioral health facilities to be a U.S. citizen or a lawful permanent resident of the United States and have a valid Level I fingerprint clearance card by January 1, 2027: 1) outpatient treatment centers that provide only behavioral health services; 2) behavioral health inpatient facilities; 3) behavioral health residential facilities; 4) counseling facilities; 5) substance abuse transitional facilities; and 6) behavioral health specialized transitional facilities.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that she remains open to working with the Legislature on additional reforms to prevent fraud, waste and abuse in Medicaid, but that she will not do so at the expense of the good health care providers on which Arizonans rely.

health insurance; reimbursement rates; vaccines (S.B. 1212) – VETOED

SEE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

~~stem cells; birth tissue; therapy~~ (NOW: stem cells; regenerative therapy) (S.B. 1214) – VETOED

Authorizes a health care provider (provider) to perform stem cell or regenerative therapy that is not approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration if the therapy is within the provider's scope of practice, the provider has completed applicable training, the therapy complies with specified sourcing and informed consent requirements and the cells, exosomes or biologic materials are sourced from and retrieved, manufactured and stored by facilities that meet specified registration, inspection, certification or accreditation requirements. Prescribes contract terms for a provider's acquisition of stem cells or regenerative medicines from a manufacturing facility. A provider who administers a stem cell or regenerative therapy must maintain accurate treatment records and document any clinical outcomes and report adverse events, as specified. Any violation of stem cell and regenerative therapy requirements is deemed an act of unprofessional conduct. A person who receives a stem cell or regenerative therapy in violation of statutory requirements may bring a civil action for $10,000 in statutory damages per violation, plus attorney fees and costs.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1214 would open the door to costly medical treatments that are not allowed federally and circumvent clear regulatory pathways.

administrative deficiencies; cure period (S.B. 1233) – VETOED

Stipulates that the Department of Health Services, the Department of Economic Security and the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System may take disciplinary or enforcement action against a licensed or contracted facility identified as having only administrative deficiencies, only if the agency allows the facility 72 hours to cure the deficiencies. Defines *administrative deficiency* as a violation that does not impact a patient or resident physically or psychosocially and that has no potential to physically or psychosocially harm the patient or resident.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1233 falls short of the state's responsibility to taxpayers to safeguard against fraud, waste and abuse.

SNAP; mandatory employment and training.. (S.B. 1331/H.B. 2442) – VETOED

Requires the Department of Economic Security (DES) to require able-bodied adults under 60 years old who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to participate in a federal mandatory employment and training program, unless the recipient meets outlined criteria for exemption.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that DES has already taken steps to improve the accuracy of SNAP benefit determinations and that S.B. 1331 would duplicate these efforts, disrupt agency operations and impose unfunded mandates.

SNAP; work requirement waivers; exemptions. (S.B. 1334/H.B. 2448) – 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 the option to provide exemptions from the SNAP work requirement unless authorized by state law.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that DES has already taken steps to improve the accuracy of SNAP benefit determinations and that S.B. 1334 would duplicate these efforts, disrupt agency operations and impose unfunded mandates.

vaccination mandates; masks; prohibition (H.B. 2086) – VETOED

Prohibits a governmental entity from requiring an Arizona resident to wear a mask or face covering, regardless of whether the person is on governmental premises, and expands the prohibition on governmental entity vaccination mandates to apply to vaccinations for any disease or virus, rather than only COVID-19. Removes the exemptions from the prohibition on face mask and vaccination requirements for special health care districts and health care institutions that are owned or operated by a government entity.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that Arizona law already provides robust exemptions to immunization requirements and expresses concern that diseases that were once eliminated are making a comeback in playgrounds and classrooms.

SNAP; error rate; forensic audit (H.B. 2206/S.B. 1333) – VETOED

Requires, by December 30, 2030, the Department of Economic Security (DES) to reduce the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) payment error rate to no more than three percent and establishes reporting requirements and procedures for corrective action by the Auditor General (OAG). Beginning in FY 2027, DES must submit a quarterly report to the Legislature detailing DES's monthly progress towards reducing the payment error rate. If DES fails to meet the annual interim targets or final target, DES must submit a corrective action plan to the Legislature and pay 50 percent of any federal liabilities imposed due to the excess payment error rate. If DES fails to comply with the corrective plan, DES funding must be reduced by 10 percent

until resolved. The OAG must complete a special audit by November 15, 2027, to determine what factors contributed to the payment error rate and recommend actions to reduce the payment error rate. DES must implement the OAG's recommendations within 12 months, unless the recommendations are waived by the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that DES has already taken steps to improve the accuracy of SNAP benefit determinations and that H.B. 2206 would duplicate these efforts, disrupt agency operations and impose unfunded mandates.

medical interventions; prohibition (H.B. 2248) – VETOED

Prohibits a business entity, ticket issuer, school or any other government entity or official from requiring a person to receive or use a medical intervention or from taking specified adverse actions against a person based on the person's receipt or use of a medical intervention. A business entity may not require a medical intervention as a condition of employment, unless the position requires travel to foreign jurisdictions where medical interventions are required for entry. A school may prohibit or limit admission of a student who has not provided proof of immunization during a communicable disease outbreak and limit school access for persons with specified infections or infestations. Any entity in violation of the outlined restrictions may be subject to enforcement action by the Attorney General or county attorney and payment of all attorney fees and costs.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that Arizona law already provides robust exemptions to immunization requirements and expresses concern that diseases that were once eliminated are making a comeback in playgrounds and classrooms.

DCS; investigations; interviews; recording (H.B. 2322) – VETOED

Requires the Department of Child Safety (DCS), if federal legislation that provides grants to states for recording DCS interviews is enacted by December 31, 2036, to audio or video record any interview conducted with a child who is the subject of an investigation, with certain exceptions. If DCS fails to record an interview with a child, a person charged with abuse or neglect of the child does not have standing to object to the failure.

If federal legislation that provides grants to states for recording DCS interviews is enacted by December 31, 2036, the Director of DCS must annually apply for a grant until one is awarded. The Director of DCS must notify the Director of Legislative Council of the date on which the condition for enactment was met or that the condition was not met.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that, while she appreciates H.B. 2322's intent to modernize and align DCS interview protocols with leading practices in the field, she will instead direct DCS to apply for federal funding to jumpstart these efforts if the opportunity arises.

SNAP; allowed purchases; waiver (H.B. 2396/S.B. 1368) – VETOED

Requires the Director of the Department of Economic Security (Director) to request a waiver from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) granting the authority to restrict the

purchase of specified noneligible foods using Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. If the waiver is not granted, the Director must resubmit the request annually and may pursue the USDA pilot or demonstration authority as allowed under federal law. DES must provide clear guidance to SNAP recipients and retailers and allow a reasonable implementation period to ensure compliance with the restriction of noneligible food purchases. *Noneligible foods* include: 1) sugar-sweetened beverages, including soda and energy drinks; 2) candy and confectionary products; 3) snack foods of minimal nutritional value as defined by the USDA; and 4) prepared hot foods intended for immediate consumption.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2396 would deprive Arizonans receiving SNAP benefits of the dignity and economic freedom enjoyed by other grocery shoppers.

public monies; genetic sequencing; prohibition (H.B. 2584) – VETOED

Prohibits public monies from being spent to pay for genetic sequencing procedures performed using a device produced by a company domiciled in, or owned or controlled by a company domiciled in, a foreign adversary. Defines a *foreign adversary* 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 agency or entity under significant control of a foreign adversary.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2584 would increase health care system costs and providers would need sufficient time to audit and phase out gene sequencing devices.

group homes; safety; training; rights (H.B. 2611) – VETOED

Modifies the rights granted to foster children to: 1) specify that health services afforded to foster children must be immediate and unbiased; 2) add the right to voluntary participation in enrichment activities; and 3) add the right to be free of bullying or discrimination. A caregiver, home, employee or facility where a child in the care of the Department of Child Safety (DCS) is placed may not take, threaten or cause retaliatory action against a child for reporting a suspected violation or participating in an inquiry or investigation of a violation of the foster child's personal rights.

Requires, rather than allows, DCS to conduct a drug screening of any group foster home employee involved in an incident involving the injury of a child and outlines reporting requirements for the results. A group foster home must submit verification of quarterly random drug screenings and report the results to DCS. If an employee refuses to submit to a drug screening, tests positive or tampers with the screening specimen or result, the group foster home must immediately remove the employee until a confirmatory screening and terminate the employee if the confirmatory testing results are positive. Requires DCS to develop and implement rules, policies and procedures for group foster homes and juvenile group homes relating to employee screening and resident safety.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that parts of H.B. 2611 go too far and would deprive youth in group homes of the normalcy they deserve in their living arrangements and invites policymakers to join her in more productive endeavors to reduce Arizona's use of congregate care and expand access to behavioral health interventions for youth.

AHCCCS; enrollment verification; presumptive eligibility (H.B. 2796/S.B. 1236) – VETOED

Beginning January 1, 2027, 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. At least quarterly, AHCCCS must redetermine the eligibility of able-bodied adult members who are not American Indians or Alaska Natives. 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 any 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 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 member eligibility information. By April 1, 2027, 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 H.B. 2796 would result in duplicative or redundant state obligations since AHCCCS already maintains eligibility verification processes and that new federal Medicaid eligibility and work requirements will take effect on January 1, 2027.

fetal and prenatal development; instruction (H.B. 2830) – VETOED

SEE THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Judiciary & Elections Committee

Senator Wendy Rogers, Chairperson



Zack Dean, Research Analyst

Kaytie Sherman, Assistant Research Analyst

Michelle Young, Intern

JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

candidate committees; posthumous closure (S.B. 1029) – Chapter 7

Deems that a candidate committee has the intention to terminate after the candidate's death and outlines an order of succession for the candidate committee's treasurer, if the deceased candidate was acting as treasurer. The subsequent treasurer must note on the candidate committee termination statement that the candidate is deceased and provide the filing officer with documentation that verifies the death. A filing officer may waive any penalties from a candidate committee's failure to file a campaign finance report if the report was due after the candidate's death.

county abatement liens; notice; priority (S.B. 1067) – Chapter 66

Specifies that the sale of a property tax lien or an action to foreclose the right to redeem a property tax lien does not extinguish a lien for an assessment levied against the property for the cost of a county's removal of rubbish, trash, weeds, filth, debris or dilapidated buildings that constitute a hazard to public health and safety. Repeals the specification on October 1, 2028.

dangerous crimes against children; probation (S.B. 1092) – Chapter 27

SEE THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.

service of process; evaluation agencies (S.B. 1113) – Chapter 214

SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.

duty to report; abuse; neglect (S.B. 1127) – Chapter 143

Prohibits a person who has a duty to report child abuse or neglect and who has direct knowledge of a child's abuse or neglect from delegating another person to make the report of abuse or neglect, except an employee or agent of a health care institution may delegate the report of abuse or neglect to another person if the delegation is reasonably necessary to continue patient care or comply with applicable standards of care.

Prohibits a law enforcement investigation into a public school employee's alleged abuse or neglect of a child from being supervised, managed or directed by a school resource officer or school safety officer.

candidate financial disclosures; public officers (S.B. 1133) – Chapter 144 W/O

Specifies that, beginning September 12, 2026, for state and legislative offices or beginning January 1, 2027, for all other offices, a candidate who has filed a financial disclosure statement for that year is in compliance with the requirement to file a financial disclosure statement when filing the candidate's nomination papers and is not required to file an additional financial statement.

aggravated harassment; lifetime injunctions (S.B. 1211) – Chapter 8

Adds felony aggravated harassment involving domestic violence to the list of offenses for which a victim may request a lifetime injunction against the convicted defendant.

court-ordered treatment; guardians; notice; release (S.B. 1243) – Chapter 161

Stipulates that, if a guardianship exists for a patient who is court-ordered to treatment, the medical director of the mental health treatment agency must notify the patient's guardian of the patient's intended release or discharge at least 10 days in advance and requires the notification to include a statement that in the opinion of the medical director the patient is no longer a danger to self or others or no longer has a persistent or acute disability or a grave disability as a result of a mental disorder. Modifies requirements relating to demands for notice that are filed by relatives of the patient or victims.

When determining whether a continuation of court-ordered treatment is appropriate, the mental health treatment agency, as part of the patient's annual review, must solicit, accept and consider information that is relevant to the patient's behavior during and before the court-ordered treatment from persons who have a significant relationship with the patient. If the medical director of the mental health treatment agency decides not to file an application for continued court-ordered treatment, the mental health treatment agency must notify the patient's guardian at least 30 days before the patient's order for treatment expires and the guardian may request that the patient be evaluated by an independent evaluator. At least 15 days before the expiration of the current order for treatment, the patient's guardian may apply for continued court-ordered treatment by alleging the basis for the application and complying with the procedures prescribed for applications filed by a medical director.

campaigns; protected residential addresses (S.B. 1259) – Chapter 164

Allows a person whose residential address is protected from public disclosure and who is filing a committee organization statement or an annual financial disclosure statement to provide an alternate mailing address and attest that the person's residence address is in the electoral district that the person proposes to represent.

~~mandatory prison sentences; judicial discretion~~ (NOW: diversion program; military members; veterans) (S.B. 1275) – Chapter 221

Allows a county attorney to establish a veterans diversion program (program) for treating defendants who are military members or veterans. Each county attorney has sole discretion to decide whether to divert a defendant to the program before a guilty plea or trial, except the program may be structured to require an offender to plead guilty before program entry. A program may provide for the dismissal of a criminal complaint on successful completion of the program. A defendant is ineligible for program participation if the defendant has been charged with: 1) an offense involving death or serious physical injury to another person; 2) a sexual offense; or 3) an offense in which the defendant engages in a continuing criminal enterprise.

unlawful occupants; forcible entry; detainer (S.B. 1426) – Chapter 69

Modifies the definition of *forcible detainer* to include instances in which a person has made a forcible entry on the possession of another person who also acquired possession of the property by forcible entry, the person refuses after a reasonable request to return possession to the original possessor and all other prescribed conditions are met, including that: 1) the requesting person is the property owner or the owner's authorized agent; 2) the property includes a residential dwelling or is being used for residential purposes; 3) an unauthorized person is occupying the property and the property owner has directed the unauthorized person to leave; and 4) the unauthorized person did not have a prior verbal or written agreement to cohabitate with the property owner in the residential dwelling. The court must issue a writ of restitution immediately after the court signs any judgment against an unauthorized person in a forcible detainer action that meets the outlined description and the Arizona Supreme Court must adopt rules for the expeditious resolution of forcible detainer claims.

aggravated assault; utility workers (S.B. 1448) – Chapter 177

SEE THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.

schools; prohibition; unmanned aircraft (S.B. 1627) – Chapter 236

Prohibits a person from operating an unmanned aircraft for recreation or photography within 200 feet above a property used to provide instruction to students in kindergarten or any of grades 1 through 12, unless the operator owns or controls the property or has received consent from a person who owns or controls the property. To be cited for a violation, the person who owns or controls the property must have posted a reasonable notice prohibiting entry and either the property owner or a peace officer must have notified the operator of the prohibition and given a reasonable request to leave the property. A violation is a class 3 misdemeanor.

~~probation supervision; least restrictive conditions~~ (NOW: probation supervision; reasonably necessary conditions) (S.B. 1662) – Chapter 186

Requires a court or probation officer, when determining a defendant's probation conditions, to only impose conditions that are reasonably necessary, individually determined and narrowly tailored to: 1) assist the defendant in leading a law-abiding life; 2) protect public safety; and 3) promote the defendant's rehabilitation. Probation conditions must be informed by the defendant's criminogenic risk and needs. A court or probation officer must consider waiving any unnecessary standard probation condition. Before imposing a special condition of probation, the court or probation officer must review all information that is properly presented to the court and determine if the special condition is more restrictive than is necessary.

signatures required; nomination petitions (S.B. 1664) – Chapter 187

Modifies signature requirements for constable candidates in a county with a population of 1,000,000 persons or more by requiring nomination petitions to be signed by the lesser of either 1,000 signatures or at least one percent of the number of qualified signers in the justice precinct.

sexual offenses; victim; evidence (S.B. 1669) – Chapter 238

Requires, when considering whether evidence relating to a victim's prior sexual conduct is admissible, the evidence of the victim's specific sexual activity to show the source or origin of physical injury, rather than trauma.

domestic violence; release conditions (S.B. 1723) – Chapter 242

Allows a court to require a defendant to provide specified identifying information to the plaintiff if the court has issued an order of protection against the defendant and has reasonable cause to believe that physical harm would result to the plaintiff without the information. If a defendant is charged with a felony offense involving domestic violence that results in physical harm to another person and the defendant is released on bail or their own recognizance, a judicial officer must impose: 1) electronic monitoring, where available; and 2) a no-contact order on the defendant.

Allows the superior court to modify an order of protection regarding a child who is common to the parties and who is included on the order of protection, only if it is in the best interest of the child and is limited solely to effectuating parenting time orders.

~~photo enforcement systems; prohibition~~ (NOW: photo enforcement systems; voter approval) (S.C.R. 1004)

SEE THE APPROPRIATIONS, TRANSPORTATION & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE.

sample ballots; mailing date (H.B. 2006) – Chapter 34

Requires a county board of supervisors to mail printed mailer-type sample ballots for primary and general elections at least 14 days, rather than 11 days, before the election in counties that do not contain a U.S. Postal Service Processing and Distribution Center. The Secretary of State must annually publish a list of counties for which this requirement applies.

elections; July primary; curing; observers (H.B. 2022/S.B. 1425) – Chapter 1 E

An emergency measure effective February 6, 2026, that moves the date of the primary election from the first Tuesday in August to the second to last Tuesday in July and requires any election item that was called by a city, town or county for the August 4, 2026, primary election to be placed on the ballot for the newly designated primary election date of July 21, 2026. Petition signatures that comply with all other requirements may not be deemed invalid based solely on the changed primary date or for any clerical error by an election official. A filing officer may not reject petitions, nomination papers or signatures solely due to the listed date of the primary election and a person does not have to file a new or amended statement of interest based solely on the change to the 2026 primary election date.

Signature verification for provisional ballots must take place within 7 calendar days, rather than 10 calendar days, after a general election that includes a federal office or within 5 calendar days, rather than 5 business days, after any other election. Modifies requirements for party agents, representatives and alternates who act as challengers or observers.

annual probation review; prehearing; notification (H.B. 2046) – Chapter 36

Requires notification of any prehearing for an annual probation review hearing to be provided to the prosecutor, probationer's attorney, probation officer and any victim or victim's attorney.

distracted driving; penalties; motorcycles (H.B. 2109) – Chapter 81

Subjects a person who is found guilty of using a portable wireless or standalone electronic device while operating a motor vehicle to: 1) a civil penalty of $400, rather than between $150 and $250, for a second or subsequent violation; and 2) an additional civil penalty of $150 if the violation results in an accident with a motorcycle.

venue; employee conflict; superior court (H.B. 2126) – Chapter 45

Stipulates that, if a party to a civil action in the superior court is an employee of the judicial branch or the clerk of the superior court, a change of venue as a matter of right applies only if the: 1) employee holds or held a leadership or supervisory position at the time of filing the action; 2) employee works or worked in the same division of the superior court to which the action is assigned; or 3) superior court in the county in which the action is pending has three or fewer divisions and the employee is employed by the judicial branch or clerk of the superior court in that county. If a party fails to meet at least one of the prescribed conditions, a change of venue based solely on the party's employment with the judicial branch or clerk of the superior court may be granted only on a showing of good cause.

trafficking weapons or explosives (H.B. 2131) – Chapter 21

Prohibits a person convicted of trafficking three or more weapons or explosives from being eligible for suspension of sentence, probation, pardon or release, with certain exceptions. A person does not need to engage in trafficking multiple weapons or explosives or trafficking weapons or explosives for financial gain in order to commit an offense.

fentanyl; possession; sale; amount; sentencing (H.B. 2132) – Chapter 46

Reduces, from 200 grams to 100 grams, the amount of fentanyl that must be involved in a sale to another person, or possessed in a motor vehicle, for enhanced criminal sentencing ranges to apply. Specifies that enhanced sentencing ranges apply to offenses involving possession of fentanyl in a motor vehicle if the violation involves either possession or transportation, rather than both possession and transportation, of fentanyl for sale.

criminal records sealed; petty offense (H.B. 2198) – Chapter 86

Allows a person who is convicted of a petty offense to petition the court to seal the person's records of arrest, conviction and sentence immediately after the person completes the nonmonetary conditions of the person's probation or sentence and is discharged by the court.

name change petition; sex offenders (H.B. 2223) – Chapter 22

Outlines additional requirements for an individual who is required to register as a sex offender and who applies for a name change, including a requirement to indicate, under penalty of perjury, whether the name change applicant has: 1) been convicted in any state of an offense for which the applicant is required to register as a sex offender; and 2) served a copy of the name change application to the prosecuting agency in the county of conviction. If a victim requested postconviction notice, the victim must be notified of the name change application by the prosecuting agency and may contest the application. If the court grants a name change for a person who is required to register as a sex offender, the court must order the person to register under the new name and use the prior name as an alias.

processing arrestees; veteran status (H.B. 2226) – Chapter 193

Requires the court to inquire about a person's veteran status at the person's initial appearance hearing and notify the prosecuting agency of the person's veteran status. The court must provide information to the person regarding services that are provided by the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services and the prosecuting agency must consider referring the person to the veterans court or another appropriate treatment court or diversion program, unless the person is charged with a dangerous or serious offense, a violent or aggravated felony or a dangerous crime against children. If a person's veteran status is in question, the prosecuting agency must allow the person or the person's attorney to prove the person's veteran status through official documentation.

evictions; satisfaction of judgments (H.B. 2244) – Chapter 194

Outlines conditions that apply when a tenant files a motion to compel satisfaction of a judgment against the landlord following an eviction action to which the landlord fails to respond within 15 days, including that the: 1) fee for filing the motion is waived and the judgment is deemed satisfied if the tenant submits proof of payment; 2) judge or justice of the peace may not hold a hearing on the motion; and 3) judge or justice of the peace may seal the eviction records.

courts; fees; assessments (H.B. 2265) – Chapter 195

Prohibits the court from imposing an appellate filing fee on a criminal defendant or making any assessment for the appointment or services of a public defender for a defendant, juvenile or parent, including any indigent administrative assessment or reimbursement to the county for the cost of the person's legal services. A jury fee may not be imposed in a criminal case and the Arizona Supreme Court may not impose additional fees on filings, appearances, answers and responses for a jury trial in a criminal case.

~~department of veterans' services; study~~ (NOW: minor victims; public records prohibition) (H.B. 2406) – Chapter 250

Establishes restrictions on the use and dissemination of records relating to child abuse and deceased minors and allows the Attorney General or the appropriate county or city attorney to enforce the restrictions. Photographs, digital images, x-rays and video recordings of a minor's human remains that are created by a medical examiner or their employees during a death investigation and images, law enforcement recordings and emergency call recordings that depict or describe child abuse or a deceased minor are confidential, not subject to public disclosure and may only be released to authorized persons. An authorized person may not further disseminate any records, with certain exceptions. A person who releases a record to an unauthorized person is guilty of a class 1 misdemeanor, subject to civil action and, if the person is a government employee, may be terminated from employment.

Except for records that are possessed by a parent, used in a prosecution or disclosed pursuant to a court order, a person may not knowingly monetize or profit from a *death scene image*, which is any image, video recording or audio recording that shows the body of a deceased minor or depicts the location of the death, if known. A violation carries a civil penalty of $100,000.

prisoners; transition program (H.B. 2440) – Chapter 96

Allows the Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR) to grant eligible inmates a onetime transition program extension of up to 90 days, if: 1) ADCRR determines that the inmate needs additional treatment or intervention; 2) the transition services provider uses an empirically validated, peer-reviewed instrument to evaluate the inmate's risk of recidivism and identifies the inmate's primary criminogenic factors; and 3) the transition services provider submits an updated individualized inmate service plan to ADCRR.

~~candidate petitions; felony disclosure~~ (NOW: releasing medical records; promptness) (H.B. 2557) – Chapter 98

Requires a health care provider that possesses medical or payment records, upon written request, to provide the records to a patient or the patient's health care decision maker within 7 business days or within the following applicable timeframes: 1) 10 business days if the request is for upcoming medical treatment and the records are less than 12 months old and maintained in an electronic health record system; 2) 15 business days if the request is for upcoming medical treatment and the records are more than 12 months old and maintained in an electronic health record system; or 3) 30 days if the request is for a purpose other than upcoming medical treatment.

DUI; alternative treatment (H.B. 2573) – Chapter 99

Removes the requirement for a person whose driver license has been revoked for multiple driving under the influence (DUI) violations to complete 45 days of the license revocation period before becoming eligible for a special ignition interlock restricted driver license. Requires an ignition interlock manufacturer to provide information regarding a person's ignition interlock

device to a licensed health professional who is providing evidence-based psychotherapy to that person. Includes evidence-based psychotherapy in certain post-conviction procedures for DUIs.

manslaughter; online advice; encouragement (H.B. 2665) – Chapter 60

Specifies that the manslaughter criminal classification applies to a person who is at least 18 years old and who intentionally provides advice or encouragement, through a directed communication, that a minor uses to die by suicide with the knowledge that the minor intends to die by suicide. *Directed communication* is any verbal, written or electronic communication, including through social media posts, text messaging or other online platforms, that is directed at the minor who dies by suicide.

sexual extortion; classification (H.B. 2666) – Chapter 61

Increases the penalty for *sexual extortion* from a class 3 felony to a class 2 felony, if the offender is at least 18 years old and knows or should have known that the victim is 15, 16 or 17 years old. The convicted person's sentence must run consecutively to any other sentence imposed for sexual extortion.

prostitution; assessment; anti-human trafficking fund (H.B. 2720) – Chapter 108

Expands the criminal classification of *prostitution* by specifying that it is unlawful for a person to knowingly: 1) receive, offer to receive or agree to receive a monetary fee or other valuable consideration for engaging in sexual conduct with another person, which is a class 1 misdemeanor; or 2) pay, offer to pay or agree to pay a monetary fee or valuable consideration for engaging in sexual conduct with another person, which is a class 6 felony or a class 4 felony, if the person commits a subsequent violation after being previously convicted of three or more violations. If a person is convicted of prostitution by knowingly paying, agreeing to pay or offering to pay for sexual conduct with another person, the court must order the person to pay a $200 nonwaivable assessment which must be deposited in the Anti-Human Trafficking Grant Fund to provide services to victims of sex trafficking.

Allows a person who is convicted of prostitution, but whose conviction was vacated due to the person being a victim of sex trafficking, to petition the court to seal the person's case records immediately after the completion of all nonmonetary terms and conditions of the person's sentence. When vacating a conviction, the court must enter an order sealing all records of a sex trafficking victim's arrest, conviction and sentence. Outlines prohibitions on the use of a sex trafficking victim's sealed records, including prohibiting the records from being: 1) alleged as an element of an offense or used as a historical prior felony; 2) admissible for impeaching any party or witness in a subsequent trial; or 3) pleaded and proved in any subsequent prosecution.

felony conviction; sentence completion; designation (H.B. 2749) – Chapter 109

Allows the court, until October 1, 2028, to designate a class 4, 5 or 6 felony conviction as a class 1 misdemeanor conviction if: 1) the felony did not involve a dangerous offense; 2) the offense did not involve a victim; 3) the person has not previously been convicted of any felony

offense; 4) the person has completed all of the terms and conditions imposed by the court; 5) at least five years have passed since the person completed their sentence and the person has not been convicted of a subsequent misdemeanor offense involving a victim or a subsequent felony offense during that time; and 6) entering the judgment of conviction for a class 1 misdemeanor is in the interest of justice. Excludes offenses involving *cruelty to animals*, *misconduct involving weapons* and *failure to register as a sex offender* from eligibility for a class 1 misdemeanor designation.

ignition interlock devices; violation; classification (H.B. 2800) – Chapter 259

SEE THE APPROPRIATIONS, TRANSPORTATION & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE.

~~technical correction, national guard~~ (NOW: inmate medical records; electronic storage) (H.B. 2857) – Chapter 25

Allows the Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR) to store an inmate's medical records electronically and allows ADCRR to dispose of any physical copies of an inmate's medical records if the medical records are stored electronically.

~~firearm destruction~~ (NOW: postnuptial agreements; enforcement) (H.B. 2861) – Chapter 26

Outlines requirements relating to the enforcement of postnuptial agreements. Requires a postnuptial agreement to be in writing and signed by both parties and specifies that the postnuptial agreement is effective on execution by both parties. A postnuptial agreement is not enforceable if the person against whom enforcement is sought proves that the: 1) postnuptial agreement is not free from fraud, coercion or undue influence; 2) person did not act with full knowledge of the property involved and the person's rights regarding the postnuptial agreement; 3) postnuptial agreement is not fair and equitable; or 4) postnuptial agreement does not reflect mutual intent to divide one or both spouse's property interests. The party who seeks to challenge a postnuptial agreement has the burden of proving by clear and convincing evidence that the agreement is not enforceable. A postnuptial agreement may be amended or revoked only by a written agreement signed by both parties.

campaign committees; termination statements; contributions (H.B. 2874) – Chapter 260 E

An emergency measure effective June 22, 2026, and retroactive to July 6, 2016, that allows a treasurer for a candidate committee, political action committee or political party (committee) to certify in the committee's termination statement that the committee received no contributions and caps the late filing penalty that a committee may accrue for each late campaign finance report at $5,000 beginning July 1, 2026.

For a committee that files a termination statement and certifies that the committee received no contributions and made no expenditures, the following conditions apply: 1) penalties for untimely filing of campaign finance reports may not be assessed or accrued against the committee; 2) any penalties that are assessed or accrued are deemed void retroactively; and 3) for any enforcement action initiated against the committee, the enforcement officer is deemed without

jurisdiction and, if the matter is before a court, the court must dismiss the matter promptly. For a committee that files a termination statement and received contributions and made expenditures during the committee's active status, the outlined conditions apply only to the specific reporting periods in which the committee received no contributions and made no expenditures.

For a committee that accrues penalties for filing untimely campaign finance reports, the penalties may not be assessed for the untimely reports and any penalties that do accrue are void, if: 1) the penalties accrued during a reporting period for which the committee certifies and files complete reports that the committee received no contributions and made no expenditures and, if the committee subsequently receives contributions and makes expenditures, the committee files reports for those reporting periods; and 2) the committee files a termination statement by December 31, 2026.

Requires a filing officer to publish a list of all active committees that owe penalties for late filings within five days after the closing date for filing a campaign finance report.

court-ordered treatment; judicial review (H.B. 2923) – Chapter 120

SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.

~~disturbing religious services; worship~~ (NOW: interfering with religious service) (H.B. 4117) – Chapter 264

Establishes the criminal classification of *interfering with a religious service or religious activity*, which a person commits by intentionally obstructing another person's ability to enter or exit a place of religious worship or making any protracted commotion, utterance or display in a place of religious worship that disrupts a religious service or activity. A violation is a class 1 misdemeanor or a class 6 felony if specified criteria are met.

citizenship; identification; contributions; early voting (H.C.R. 2001)

Subject to voter approval, constitutionally reaffirms that only U.S. citizens may vote in Arizona elections and requires all voters to present valid government-issued proof of identity before casting a ballot in each election, whether voting in-person or by any other method. On election day, all voters must have the option of on-site ballot tabulation at the voter's voting location. Foreign nationals may not contribute or expend money or anything of value to influence an Arizona election and a person may not knowingly accept such a contribution. Allows the people and the Legislature to enact laws governing elections, including early and mail voting, if the laws are rationally connected to a legitimate state interest. The outlined requirements and prohibitions are not subject to constitutional requirements that require ballot measures to provide for sufficient sources of revenue to cover the costs of the measure, except that the Legislature must appropriate any monies necessary to implement the outlined provisions. Applies this legislation to elections beginning January 1, 2028, and designates this legislation as the *Fast Accurate Secure Transparent Election Results Act* or the *FAST Election Results Act*. 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

concealed weapons; notice; repeal (S.B. 1012) – VETOED

Allows a person to carry a concealed handgun on the premises of an establishment that exclusively carries a series 12 restaurant license, if the person has a valid concealed carry weapon permit and does not consume spiritous liquor while on the premises. Establishes a presumption that a person who is in possession of a concealed handgun on a licensed premise is carrying the concealed handgun in compliance with statutory requirements and no additional verification of compliance is required by a restaurant licensee or employee. A restaurant licensee is immune from liability for property damage, personal injury and wrongful death that occurs on the licensed premises as a result of a concealed handgun, unless the licensee or employee knew the person was carrying a concealed handgun and served the person spiritous liquor.

The Director of the Department of Liquor Licenses and Control (Director) may not suspend or revoke a restaurant license on the basis of a person carrying a concealed handgun on the restaurant premises, unless the Director determines that the licensee acted with gross negligence.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that she will not take away decision-making authority from a restaurant business over firearms restrictions in their own establishments.

gender transition procedures; provider liability (S.B. 1015) – 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 who 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 it is already unlawful to perform gender transition surgery on minors in Arizona.

foreign law; sharia law; prohibition (S.B. 1018) – VETOED

SEE THE FEDERALISM & FAMILY LAW COMMITTEE.

voting; equipment; internet; custody; violation (S.B. 1037) – VETOED

Requires the Secretary of State to ensure that electronic vote recording and vote tabulating machines and devices (voting equipment) that are 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 and by whom the seals are broken or accessed.

All counting center activities must be streamed in a nonstop video on the county's website, and counting center equipment may not have a port. Counting center chain of custody documents must log the use and return of equipment that contains election results and data. 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.

cast vote record; public record (S.B. 1038) – 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 transmitting the county canvass. The county BOS or other officer in charge of elections may not alter or randomize the transmitted cast vote record, except as specified. The cast vote record is a public record.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1038 would place constitutionally protected voter privacy at risk.

attorney discipline investigations; costs (S.B. 1039) – 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. 1039 is the exact same as the bill she vetoed last year.

voter registration rolls; internet access (S.B. 1040) – VETOED

Requires a county recorder to provide access to the voter registration rolls by way of a publicly accessible internet portal that allows for the information to be downloaded in a read only format at no cost. Voter registration roll information may not be used for commercial purposes and may only be used for: 1) political or political party activity, a political campaign or an election; 2) revising election district boundaries; and 3) any other purpose authorized by law. Repeals the

procedures for a county or state party chairperson to request precinct lists from a county recorder or other officer in charge of elections and the procedures to deliver the requested precinct lists.

Removes the: 1) requirement for voter registration records to be available for public inspection at the county recorder's office, excluding certain personal information derived from voter registration forms; 2) prohibition against releasing a voter's email address for any purpose; and 3) prohibition against a person who possesses information derived from the voter registration forms distributing, posting or otherwise providing access to the information through the internet.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1040 fails to adequately safeguard voter registration information from being redistributed or posted online and risks that the information will be misused or used for commercial purposes.

concealed weapons permits; fees (S.B. 1053) – 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.

~~watermark; paper ballots~~ (NOW: fraud countermeasures; paper ballots) (S.B. 1057) – 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.

voter registration; temporary absence (S.B. 1060) – 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. 1060 would prevent U.S. citizens from registering to vote, including the children of Arizona servicemembers who are born overseas.

fentanyl; sale amount; nine grams (S.B. 1061) – 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 S.B. 1061 does not effectively target high-level drug dealers and cartels.

disruption; educational institution; concealed weapon (S.B. 1068) – 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 ensuring the safety of students is a top priority and she will continue to veto legislation that threatens student safety or that could lead to increased risk on campus.

prohibited weapons; muffling device; repeal (S.B. 1069) – VETOED

Removes a device that is designed, made or adapted to muffle the report of a firearm from the 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.

civil liability; gender reassignment surgery (S.B. 1094) – VETOED

SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.

gender transition; minors; prohibitions (S.B. 1095) – VETOED

Beginning April 1, 2027, prohibits a physician or other health professional from providing or referring gender transition procedures to individuals under 18 years old. A *gender transition procedure* includes surgery and prescribed drugs related to gender transition. A health professional who provides or refers for gender transition procedures is subject to discipline for unprofessional conduct by the appropriate licensing entity or regulatory board. Outlines time limitations for bringing an action in court and damages that may be awarded.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that it is already unlawful to perform gender transition surgery on minors in Arizona.

supreme court; attorney licensing (S.B. 1148) – VETOED

Requires the Arizona Supreme Court to license attorneys in Arizona and prohibits the Arizona Supreme Court from delegating the licensing duty to any other organization or requiring an attorney to be a member of any organization to become or remain licensed as an attorney in Arizona. The Arizona Supreme Court must adopt rules for licensing attorneys, as prescribed.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that she vetoed a similar bill in 2023 and will not support legislation that limits the Arizona Supreme Court's authority to execute the functions of the Judicial Branch.

election procedures manual; consultation (S.B. 1237) – VETOED

Adds, to the list of persons the Secretary of State must consult before prescribing rules in the Elections Procedures Manual (EPM), county recorders and the chairpersons and ranking members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over election matters.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1237 is unnecessary and that legislators may submit comments on the draft EPM during the public comment period.

victims' rights; attorney fees; costs (S.B. 1326) – VETOED

Allows a court to order any party who intentionally, knowingly or with gross negligence violates a victim's right to pay the victim's reasonable attorney fees and costs.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1326 would have unintended consequences for crime victims and could incentivize further victimization.

~~board of directors; commerce authority.~~ (NOW: ballot measures; circulators; disclosure) (S.B. 1429) – VETOED

Applies the strict compliance standard of review to initiatives and referenda for cities, towns and counties. Any municipal or county initiative or referendum measure that proposes a mandatory expenditure, establishes a specific fund or allocates funding for a specific purpose must disclose the source of increased revenues sufficient to cover the costs of the proposal.

An initiative or referendum petition circulator must indicate whether the person is an out-of-state resident and a circulator for local level petitions must also register with the Secretary of State (SOS). Any applicable filing officer, rather than only the SOS, must disqualify signatures collected by circulators who fail to register. A circulator for local level petitions may not receive payment for the number of signatures collected.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1429 further narrows the pathway for citizens' initiatives and referenda at the local level.

child neglect; prenatal substance exposure (S.B. 1476) – VETOED

Classifies *child neglect* as a class 6 felony when a person having custody of a child engages in conduct that harms the child and that involves: 1) exposing a newborn infant to a dangerous or narcotic drug or substance as determined by a health professional; or 2) a clinical finding consistent with fetal alcohol syndrome or fetal alcohol effects as diagnosed by a health professional. It is an affirmative defense to *child neglect* if the defendant is the mother of the child and the mother completed alcohol or drug treatment during the pregnancy.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that further criminalization will not yield safer pregnancies and births in Arizona.

judicial determinations; religious sectarian laws (S.B. 1573) – VETOED

Prohibits the court from relying on religious sectarian law as controlling or persuasive authority, with certain exceptions. Designates this legislation as the *Arizona Foreign Decisions Act.*

The Governor indicates in her veto message that Arizona law already prohibits the enforcement of any foreign law that violates constitutional rights.

~~DWR; application; administrative completeness~~ (NOW: homelessness; indigence; community restitution) (H.B. 2028) – VETOED

Allows the court to order a defendant who is indigent and experiencing homelessness to perform community restitution in lieu of paying the $20 assessment collected for certain violations to supplement the adult and juvenile probation departments.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2028 creates unintended consequences for homeless defendants and that the referenced fee can be waived and mitigated for all defendants who cannot pay.

writ of restitution; criminal trespass (H.B. 2047) – VETOED

Increases, from *criminal trespass in the third degree* to *criminal trespass in the first degree*, the criminal classification for *criminal trespass* when the defendant is lawfully served with a writ of restitution and continues to remain in or returns to the property for which the writ of restitution applies without the express permission of the person with lawful control of the property.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that she has already signed S.B. 1426 which adequately addresses the issue of squatters.

sexual material; consent; synthetic depiction (H.B. 2133) – VETOED

Requires a commercial entity that knowingly and intentionally publishes or distributes sexual material on the internet to require each person who uploads the material to verify that any individuals depicted in the material were at least 18 years old at the time of its creation or that the material was created before the enactment of the federal Child Protection and Obscenity Act of 1988. An affected commercial entity must maintain verification records for at least seven years and implement reasonable measures to prevent the uploading of unverified material. Outlines exceptions to, and penalties for, failing to meet the material verification requirements.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2133 has a chilling effect on free speech and violates First Amendment rights to engage in satirical discourse about elected officials.

attorney general; nuisance action; damages (H.B. 2167) – VETOED

Subjects the Attorney General (AG) to liability for specified damages to an injured party, if the AG files a public nuisance or consumer fraud action and the action was either dismissed by the court or found to not have merit and the AG knew the action lacked sufficient legal or factual basis or the AG publicized the filing. The AG must pay any damages from the AG's operating fund.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that she will not curtail a tool that is used to protect Arizonans from bad actors.

parenting time; expert testimony; qualifications (H.B. 2662) – VETOED

SEE THE FEDERALISM & FAMILY LAW COMMITTEE.

obstructing governmental operations; lawful arrest (H.B. 2811) – VETOED

Expands the criminal classification of *obstructing governmental operations* by including the act of knowingly obstructing, impairing or hindering a lawful arrest by using or threatening to use violence or physical force. A violation in this manner is a class 5 felony.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that there are already state and federal laws that adequately govern this issue.

~~competitive sealed bidding; questions; answers~~ (NOW: municipalities; referendum petitions; withdrawal) (H.B. 2873) – VETOED

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

fraudulent schemes; artifices; jurisdiction (H.B. 2970) – VETOED

Specifies that, in a prosecution for fraudulent schemes or artifices, the state is not required to establish that all of the unlawful acts occurred in Arizona or within a single city, town, county or local jurisdiction of Arizona.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that she vetoed a nearly identical bill in 2023 and that the bill is still unnecessary and will still result in confusion where none currently exists.

ballot measures; circulators; revenue; disclosure. (H.B. 4115/S.B. 1489) – VETOED

Applies the strict compliance standard of review to initiatives and referenda for cities, towns and counties. Any municipal or county initiative or referendum that proposes a mandatory expenditure, establishes a specific fund or allocates funding for a specific purpose must disclose the source of increased revenues sufficient to cover the costs of the proposal.

An initiative or referendum circulator must verbally disclose their name and state of residence when approaching a potential petition signer and wear a badge indicating this information. Paid circulators and non-Arizona resident circulators for city, town or county petitions must also register with the Secretary of State (SOS). Any applicable filing officer, rather than only the SOS, must disqualify signatures collected by circulators who fail to register.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 4115 undermines the initiative process by imposing unrealistic requirements on participants.

Military Affairs & Border Security Committee

Senator David Gowan, Chairperson



Kiyahna Araza, Research Analyst

Kendyl Mullins, Intern

MILITARY AFFAIRS & BORDER SECURITY COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

~~military compatibility permit zoning~~ (NOW: signs; military compatibility permit zoning) (S.B. 1232) – Chapter 68

Allows outdoor advertising signs, displays and devices to be placed or maintained along an interstate, secondary or primary system within 660 feet of the edge of the right-of-way on a property that: 1) is located in a high-noise or accident-potential zone within a military airport and ancillary military facility overlay zoning district; 2) has been approved through a public hearing held by the local jurisdiction or county; and 3) has been granted a military compatibility permit that allows commercial or industrial uses and that was not granted primarily to allow outdoor advertising structures.

leaves of absence; military training (H.B. 2663) – Chapter 104

Modifies the military leave period for members of a state National Guard or the U.S. Armed Forces Reserves by requiring leave to be granted on all days during which the individual is complying with competent military orders for active duty or training.

property tax; exemption; veterans (H.B. 2792/S.B. 1268) – Chapter 2 E

SEE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

veterans' court fund; grant program (H.B. 2960) – Chapter 262

Establishes the Veterans' Specialty Court Grant Program (Grant Program) and the Veterans' Treatment Court Fund (Fund), administered by the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), to provide grants to municipalities and counties to create, expand and enhance veterans' court programs, support the rehabilitation and reintegration of veterans and develop and oversee individualized treatment plans to address the underlying causes of justice-involved veterans' behavior. Each grantee must annually submit outlined data to the AOC and the AOC must annually submit a report to the Governor and Legislature that analyzes and summarizes the submitted data.

Requires the Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR) to identify incarcerated individuals who are veterans and use secure and confidential data sharing to provide monthly lists of incarcerated veterans who have an anticipated release date within 90 days to the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services (ADVS). ADVS must make a reasonable effort to contact identified individuals to provide benefits counseling, assist with eligibility determinations and provide information regarding available federal, state or local veterans' benefits and services. By December 31 of each year and in coordination with ADVS, ADCRR must submit a report to the Governor and Legislature on the implementation of the data sharing and incarcerated veteran identification requirements during the preceding fiscal year.

LEGISLATION VETOED

hospitals; patient immigration status; reporting (S.B. 1051/H.B. 2689) – VETOED

SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.

arrestees; unlawfully present; reporting (S.B. 1055) – VETOED

Requires the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement or the U.S. Customs and Border Protection to be immediately notified when a person who is unlawfully present in the United States is arrested by a state or local law enforcement official or agency for violating state or local law.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1055 could lead to law enforcement having strained resources and increased workloads and divert law enforcement's attention from its primary mission of maintaining public safety within communities.

state; local public benefits; eligibility (S.B. 1338) – VETOED

SEE THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.

undocumented aliens; financial services (S.B. 1421) – VETOED

Prohibits a check casher or financial institution from accepting, as a form of identification, a license or identification card: 1) issued exclusively to an unauthorized alien or undocumented immigrant; or 2) that has markings indicating that the card holder did not present proof of lawful presence in the United States. A loan may not be made to an individual if the loan application allows the use of a federally-issued individual taxpayer identification number as a method of identification. After the execution of an otherwise lawful loan agreement, a lender may request the borrower's individual taxpayer identification number if the borrower is not eligible to receive a social security number.

A business entity that is authorized to conduct foreign remittance transfers on behalf of an individual may not transfer the monies unless the individual provides documentation that may be used to verify an individual is not unlawfully present in the United States (documentary proof). To enforce compliance, the Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions (DIFI) may: 1) request a business entity to provide records of documentary proof used to identify individuals at any time; 2) conduct quarterly audits of business entities at random beginning July 1, 2027; and 3) impose a civil penalty equal to 25 percent of the dollar amount of the foreign remittance transfer, excluding any fees or charges, against a business entity in violation. Any person who in good faith believes that a business entity is in violation of the prescribed requirements may file a complaint with DIFI. On receipt of a valid complaint that is substantiated by evidence, DIFI must notify the business entity and the entity must pay the civil penalty. Requires DIFI to adopt rules to administer foreign remittance transfers, including acceptable documentary proof.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1421 would impose operational burdens on Arizona businesses and reduce the competitiveness of Arizona-based financial institutions to the benefit of out-of-state providers.

~~commercial vehicles; operator; lawful presence~~ (NOW: nondomiciled commercial drivers license; validity) (S.B. 1511) – VETOED

Prohibits a person who is issued a nondomiciled commercial driver license (CDL) from operating a commercial motor vehicle in Arizona unless the person can provide evidence of lawful immigration status with an unexpired foreign passport and federally-issued Form I-94/94A or provide evidence of lawful presence in the United States with a document required for licensure in Arizona (acceptable evidence). If a person operating a commercial motor vehicle with a nondomiciled CDL fails to provide acceptable evidence, a law enforcement officer or the officer's agency: 1) must issue a citation, impose a civil penalty of up to $500 and report the violation to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) and the jurisdiction that issued the person's nondomiciled CDL; and 2) may place the driver on an out-of-service order. Outlines notification procedures and commercial motor vehicle cargo, impoundment and removal requirements when a driver is placed out-of-service. A cargo owner may: 1) bring equipment or transportation to aid in the loading and transfer of cargo; and 2) immediately retrieve cargo that is perishable or time sensitive or that is for medical, emergency or critical infrastructure purposes. Allows an impound facility to pursue collection of all fees or charges from the lessee or motor carrier through normal collection processes.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that Arizona is committed to following federal guidelines set forth by the FMCSA and that S.B. 1511 is unnecessary.

agencies; immigration; data sharing (S.B. 1520) – VETOED

Requires, until January 1, 2029, the state and each state agency to share any data requested by the federal government on the status of or any information relating to an unauthorized alien, an undocumented immigrant or any individual who overstays the individual's visa in Arizona.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1520 is unconstitutional and risks violating federal and state privacy laws.

Natural Resources Committee

Senator T.J. Shope, Chairperson



Sawyer Bessler, Research Analyst
Nick Gustoff, Assistant Research Analyst
Skylin Flores, Intern

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

underground facilities; excavations; notification (S.B. 1137) – Chapter 147

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

Arizona beef council; continuation (NOW: beef council; veterinary board; continuation) (S.B. 1198) – Chapter 218

Continues the Arizona Beef Council and the Arizona State Veterinary Medical Examining Board for eight years, until July 1, 2034, retroactive to July 1, 2026.

veterinarian visits; electronic means; prescriptions (S.B. 1286) – Chapter 167

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

~~water banking; annual report; posting~~ (NOW: groundwater savings credits; irrigation) (S.B. 1335) – Chapter 223

Allows, until January 1, 2029, a person that applies to relinquish an irrigation grandfathered right (IGFR) in exchange for groundwater savings credits (GSCs) to accompany the application with a request for the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) to issue a temporary permit to irrigate with groundwater. On relinquishment of the IGFR, the Director of ADWR (Director) must issue the GSC holder a temporary permit to irrigate with groundwater for a period of up to two years. The holder of a temporary permit to irrigate with groundwater may use groundwater for irrigation on the land that qualified as irrigation acres under the relinquished IGFR as if the right had not been relinquished, subject to prescribed requirements.

When quantifying GSCs, the requirement for the Director to determine whether an applicant for GSCs has demonstrated that specified physical availability requirements have been satisfied also applies to a notice of intent to pledge GSCs to a designation of assured water supply that a person submits within two years after the date the GSCs are issued.

state land department; continuation; oversight (S.B. 1336) – Chapter 224

Arizona State Land Department (ASLD) – Continues the ASLD for four years, until July 1, 2030, retroactive to July 1, 2026, and requires the ASLD to: 1) restrict the use of a holdover provision for a lease or permit to a maximum of 90 days, unless mutually agreed on by the ASLD and the lessee; 2) restrict the use of special land use permits to only temporary land uses that do not have a dedicated land use lease or permit, unless mutually agreed on by the ASLD and the lessee; 3) post on the ASLD's website all boilerplate conditions and obligations required for the use, possession, occupancy, lease or conveyance of state lands; 4) approve or deny any application to place an improvement on leased state lands within 90 days; 5) provide a lessee with a prescribed

reimbursement plan within six months after a lease concludes; 6) provide prescribed lease renewal or termination information at least six months before a lease expires; and 7) establish procedures and criteria for the Commissioner of the ASLD (Commissioner) to use when determining whether to initiate the sale of state lands and to post the procedures and criteria on the ASLD's website.

Conceptual Land Use and Five-Year State Trust Land Disposition Plans – Requires the Commissioner to prioritize the creation of conceptual land use plans to correlate with the population growth rate in all areas of Arizona, rather than only urban areas of Arizona, and to promote economic growth in rural areas of Arizona. By September 12, 2028, the Commissioner must: 1) complete the five-year state trust land disposition plans and update the conceptual land use plan; and 2) adopt written policies and procedures for updating and using the state trust land disposition plans and conceptual land use plans.

Exploration Permits – Extends the term for an exploration permit from one year to five years. An exploration permit is eligible for renewal for one additional five-year period for an aggregate of 10 years after the date of issuance.

Miscellaneous – Establishes the Joint Legislative Ad Hoc Committee on State Land Oversight and the Biosolids Study Committee and outlines membership, powers and duties.

solar energy; inspection; contractors (S.B. 1419) – Chapter 175

Requires a licensed solar contractor to evaluate a roof and roofing components before installing a solar energy device to determine whether the roof is capable of supporting installation. By installing a solar device on a roof, the licensed solar contractor is deemed to have accepted the roof surface for purposes of initial installation and is responsible for repairing roof damage caused by the installation.

Prescribes disclosure requirements when selling or leasing a distributed energy generation system. Removes the requirement for a document or sales presentation relating to a distributed energy generation system to include historical utility rates for the immediately preceding time period if the document or sales presentation contains financial savings comparative estimates or utility rate comparative estimates. A document or sales presentation for a distributed energy generation system must disclose to what extent maintenance and repairs are included and estimates for system maintenance costs that the customer is responsible to pay.

cap; water supply development fund (S.B. 1560) – Chapter 233

Increases, from $3,000,000 to $20,000,000, the cap for a single loan from the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund that may be made to eligible entities for water supply development projects within Arizona.

water conservation grant fund; disclosure (H.B. 2029) – Chapter 35

Requires an eligible entity that receives water from a multi-county water conservation district and applies for a grant from the Water Conservation Grant Fund to disclose: 1) the

projected water savings; 2) the source of any water that the project is estimated to save; 3) whether the estimated water to be saved is groundwater or surface water; and 4) the eligible entity's plan for the saved water. By December 12, 2026, the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority must adopt rules to implement the prescribed disclosure requirements.

reclamation plans; aggregate mining; notice (H.B. 2078) – Chapter 78

Retroactive to September 16, 2024, specifies that the requirement for an aggregate mining facility owner or operator to provide notice of a proposed aggregate mining unit to property owners within a one-half mile radius of the proposed aggregate mining operation: 1) applies only to new proposed reclamation plans for new aggregate mining operations that are submitted beginning September 16, 2024; and 2) may be satisfied by providing prior public notices relating to special use permitting or rezoning or annexation applications or by providing other public notices associated with the proposed aggregate mining unit if the public notices were published or distributed or displayed within at least a one-half mile radius of the aggregate mining operation.

forgivable financial assistance; cesspool remediation (H.B. 2096) – Chapter 80

Allows a county to apply for and receive financial assistance, including forgivable principal, from the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) for the remediation, closure or replacement of cesspools that present a demonstrated risk to surface water, groundwater or public health. WIFA may award financial assistance using monies from the Clean Water Revolving Fund and the Drinking Water Revolving Fund. A county that identifies and remediates a cesspool may construct or improve a wastewater treatment facility or nonpoint source project with the financial assistance. Each county must coordinate with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) to ensure that each project receiving financial assistance is consistent with the county's water quality management plan or ADEQ's nonpoint source management plan. By January 1, the WIFA Board must create an annual report that summarizes the awarded financial assistance.

county water augmentation authorities; bond (H.B. 2098) – Chapter 42

Allows a county water augmentation authority (authority), acting through its board, to issue revenue bonds necessary to provide sufficient monies to acquire or construct projects. An authority's secretary-treasurer must pay principal due on bonds from the bond fund and invest bond fund monies, as prescribed by statute.

An authority board must notify the Attorney General (AG) of the authority's intention to issue bonds and, within 10 days after receiving the notice, the AG must inform the authority board whether the AG believes the proposed project does not comply with statutorily prescribed requirements. The authority board may issue the bonds if the AG does not issue an opinion within 10 days after receiving the notice.

An authority board's chairperson or executive director, or their designees, must fix a time and place for a hearing before adopting a bond resolution. The authority must provide a hearing notice at least 20 days in advance of the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation. Bonds are

valid and binding obligations unless, before the delivery of the bonds, any person whose signatures appear on the bonds ceases to be an authority board member. Outlines additional bond issuance and repayment requirements and procedures.

An authority may enter into a loan repayment agreement with the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) and construct, acquire or improve a wastewater treatment facility, drinking water facility or nonpoint source project with monies borrowed from WIFA or financial assistance, including forgivable principal, provided by WIFA.

natural resource conservation board; fund (H.B. 2117) – Chapter 43

Increases the cap for the annual distribution by the Arizona Natural Resource Conservation Board (NRCB) to each natural resource conservation district with an established education center from $5,000 to $10,000. Requires the NRCB, rather than the Arizona State Land Department, to disburse annual donations in the Environmental Special Plate Fund for environmental education programs. Requires NRCB geographic natural resource areas to be contiguous and requires the NRCB to prioritize major land resources, crops and other shared land features when defining the geographic natural resource areas.

Each NRCB member representing a geographic natural resource area may hold office until the member's successor is appointed and all NRCB members serving on September 12, 2026, may continue to serve until the expiration of their normal terms.

~~HOV lane; blood transport vehicles~~ (NOW: watercraft fund; distribution of monies) (H.B. 2257) – Chapter 248

SEE THE APPROPRIATIONS, TRANSPORTATION & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE.

mining; mineral; museum; state history (H.B. 2264) – Chapter 24

Requires the University of Arizona (U of A), in coordination with the Mining, Mineral and Natural Resources Education Museum Advisory Council (Advisory Council), to promote the history of Arizona and the importance of the Five C's. When advising the U of A regarding the Mining, Mineral and Natural Resources Education Museum and when promoting the Museum's mission, the Advisory Council must also promote the history of the Five C's.

financial assurance; reclamation; escrow; trusts (H.B. 2278) – Chapter 54

Adds a cash deposit with a third-party escrow or trust account to the list of allowable financial assurance mechanisms for owners and operators of exploration operations, mining units and aggregate mining units who create surface disturbances. All interest and earnings accrued through a cash deposit with a third-party escrow or trust account, minus administrative fees and costs, are the owner's or operator's property and may be applied toward the final reclamation costs.

emissions; reduction credits; counties (H.B. 2428) – Chapter 93

Allows a county to claim concurrent jurisdiction over components of a portable source of emissions and mobile sources of emissions for the purpose of issuing, revising or enforcing a permit for emission reduction credits (ERCs). A permit or permit revision for which an applicant has voluntarily applied and that is issued by a control officer or the Director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality for the sole purpose of certifying ERCs must: 1) remain subject to all applicable permit program rules, conditions and enforcement; 2) be issued at the discretion of the permitting authority; and 3) be for a term of up to 20 years. An applicant's election to participate in any program that results in the certification of ERCs by a county is voluntary.

utilities; high load factor customers (H.B. 2756) – Chapter 111

Requires a public power entity that serves more than 1,000,000 connections and an electric public service corporation to file with the entity's governing body or the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) semiannual reports regarding new extra high load factor customers, including the number of requests for interconnection and completed interconnections for the immediately preceding six-month period. Beginning September 12, 2028, the public power entity governing body or the ACC may suspend the semiannual report requirement by a majority vote of the governing body or the ACC if the numbers reported are zero for at least two consecutive six-month periods. A vote to reinstate the semiannual report requirement may take place at any time.

The ACC may establish and include outlined required characteristics that govern the terms for electric service that is provided to extra high load factor customers that are not otherwise provided service under a pre-existing electric public service corporation tariff.

Within 180 days of September 12, 2026, a public power entity that serves more than 1,000,000 connections or an electric public service corporation, on request of the ACC or the public power entity governing body, must file a cost-of-service study that shows the cost allocation of serving new extra high load factor customers.

Member-owned electric cooperatives or electric public service corporations that serve 40,000 connections or fewer are exempt from the prescribed reporting, rulemaking and cost-of-service study requirements. The reporting and rulemaking requirements for outlined public power entities and electric service corporations are repealed on January 1, 2034.

food products; labeling; cultivated cells (H.B. 2762) – Chapter 204

Requires the manufacturer, packager or retailer of a food product that is derived from cultivated cells to place a label on the food product's packaging that states *cell-cultivated* or *cell-cultured.* Designates this legislation as the *Andy Groseta Act.*

shooting range; closure; conditions (H.B. 2763) – Chapter 255

Adds, as a condition that must be fulfilled before the Arizona Game and Fish Commission may close a shooting range, a requirement for the Legislature to adopt a joint resolution approving the closure.

corporation commission; utilities; amortization; tariffs (H.B. 2782) – Chapter 257

Requires, if a regulatory asset is included in rate base or otherwise reflected in rates based on a test year or historical balance, the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) and the public service corporation to disclose: 1) the unamortized balance of the regulatory asset as of the rate effective date; 2) the difference between the test year balance and the rate effective date balance; 3) the total amount of amortization expense expected to be recovered over the period the rates are in effect; and 4) the treatment applied to each category of regulatory asset and indicate whether and how rate base will be adjusted over time to reflect declining balances for the assets subject to such adjustment, if applicable.

department of environmental quality; programs (H.B. 2986) – Chapter 209

Solid Waste Fee Fund – Expands the list of permissible uses of Solid Waste Fee Fund monies and adds in-lieu contributions and used oil handler fees to the Solid Waste Fee Fund sources. Repeals the Recycling Fund, transfers all unexpended and unencumbered Recycling Fund monies to the Solid Waste Fee Fund and requires the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) to administer and distribute Solid Waste Fee Fund monies for public education programs on recycling and source reduction and Arizona Recycling Program grants. When making expenditures for public information, public education and technical assistance programs concerning litter control, recycling and source reduction, the Director of ADEQ must ensure that counties with a population of fewer than 500,000 persons receive benefits in proportion to their contributions to the Solid Waste Fee Fund.

Requires the Director of ADEQ to appoint a nine-member advisory committee to advise on the use of Solid Waste Fee Fund monies for recycling grants, recycling education and technical assistance in managing or establishing recycling programs.

Lead Acid Batteries – Removes the requirements for: 1) a collection or recycling facility to be authorized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or ADEQ to accept lead acid batteries for discard or disposal; and 2) the Director of ADEQ to require collection and recycling facilities that handle lead acid batteries to pay an initial registration fee and annual fee.

Open Burning Permits – If ADEQ assumes jurisdiction over open burning in a county, the Director of ADEQ may delegate the authority to issue open burning permits to a county, city, town or fire district.

Used Oil Program – Requires ADEQ to administer a statewide used oil program that may not be more stringent than the federal used oil program.

State Implementation Plan (SIP) Proposed Modifications – Extends, from July 1, 2027, to July 1, 2029, the conditional enactment deadlines for the EPA to approve the proposed modifications to the vehicle emissions testing program and the gasoline fuel formulation requirements as part of the Arizona SIP for air quality.

subsurface minerals; access; federal policy (H.C.M. 2009)

Urges the U.S Congress to: 1) amend the federal Antiquities Act of 1906 and extend the Wyoming exception to Arizona so that no new national monuments can be designated in Arizona without the express authorization of the U.S. Congress, the Arizona Legislature and necessary local governments; and 2) compensate states for the value of subsurface mineral rights that state land departments are prohibited from accessing due to federal land withdrawals.

Urges the U.S. President to take all necessary policy steps to streamline the permitting process for western mines.

Urges the U.S. Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to work with specified stakeholders to develop and engage in strategic land and subsurface mineral swaps to eliminate the checkerboard patterns of both the surface and subsurface estates and eliminate the split estate in as many places as possible.

Urges the U.S. Secretary of the Interior to direct the BLM to rescind requirements of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations because those requirements are contrary to the Federal Land Policy Management Act and the federal Stock-Raising Homestead Act and there is no statutory authority to apply a specific requirement of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations to surface estates patented under the federal Taylor Grazing Act.

Mexican wolf; delist; urging support (H.C.M. 2011)

Urges the U.S. Congress to: 1) pass H.R. 4255 and delist the Mexican wolf from the Endangered Species List; 2) defund the Mexican Wolf Reintroduction Project; 3) allow states and local authorities to manage the Mexican wolf; 4) allow ranchers to protect their private property on all lands; 5) modify operating procedures to give ranchers real time data on Mexican wolf locations; 6) reinstate operating procedures to reverify Mexican wolf kills; and 7) fully and promptly compensate ranchers for all economic losses related to the Mexican wolf.

for-sale housing; development; groundwater replenishment (H.C.R. 2020)

Declares the Legislature's support for the building of for-sale housing developments outside the service area of designated providers if the development is enrolled in the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District and replenishes groundwater as required by the Phoenix, Pinal and Tucson active management area assured water supply rules.

LEGISLATION VETOED

supply and demand; assessment; groundwater. (S.B. 1202) – VETOED

Requires the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) to include prescribed metrics in each five-year supply and demand assessment for each groundwater basin.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1202 requires ADWR to publish a questionable set of groundwater metrics and imposes an unfunded mandate.

public monies; Mexican wolf; prohibition (S.B. 1280) – VETOED

Prohibits the Arizona Game and Fish Commission from transporting, or spending or using public monies or resources to transport, Mexican gray wolf puppies into the boundaries of Arizona.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1280 broadly restricts how Arizona can respond to the Mexican Wolf Reintroduction Program.

corporation commission; small modular reactors (S.B. 1418) – 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 small modular reactor (SMR) without filing an application or receiving a certificate of environmental compatibility, if the new SMR is co-located with an extra high load factor customer 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 SMR or construct a new SMR without seeking a new certificate of environmental compatibility or holding a public hearing, if the new or replacement SMR 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 county zoning 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 an SMR, if certain conditions are met prior to the construction of the SMR.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1418 deploys a catch-all approach for SMRs and that a responsible regulatory framework that encourages innovation while protecting public safety should be developed.

water quality; testing; on-site (S.B. 1445) – VETOED

Allows a city or town with a population between 1,000 persons and 9,999 persons and that has been issued an aquifer protection permit to test bacteriological samples on-site with testing equipment approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) may not require a community water system that is located in a county with a population of 400,000 persons or fewer and that serves 25 or fewer service connections to maintain a minimum storage capacity larger than 1,000 gallons.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1445 undermines the water quality oversight standards that safeguard Arizona communities and the environment and further weakens the water supply redundancy requirements that ensure small water providers have the reliability needed to maintain consistent service at the tap.

exceptional events; air quality; wildfires (H.B. 2013) – VETOED

Requires the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to submit an exceptional event demonstration to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency if a wildfire that is larger than 25,000 acres occurs on federally managed land and the attributable smoke or land damage affects Arizona.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2013 is a duplicative and unfunded mandate that would cost the state hundreds of thousands of dollars a year-without a demonstrated, additive return on such investment.

assured water supply; commingling (H.B. 2026) – VETOED

Allows the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources, for the purpose of determining whether sufficient groundwater, surface water or effluent of adequate quality will be continuously available to satisfy the water needs of the proposed use, to consider only the proposed source or sources of the supply dedicated to the proposed use regardless of whether the water is distributed through a water delivery system that is commingled with other sources of water supply.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2026 would undermine Arizona's 100-year Assured Water Supply Program by allowing for water accounting that could lead to more groundwater over pumping.

grandfathered right; Willcox AMA; extension (H.B. 2031) – VETOED

Retroactive to January 8, 2025, and until January 1, 2027, extends the time period, from within 15 months to within 27 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 water users in the Willcox Groundwater Basin have been aware of formal AMA discussions since October 23, 2024, and that H.B. 2031 creates confusion and deprives water users of receiving their water rights by an additional year.

solar radiation management; prohibition; enforcement (H.B. 2042/S.B. 1278) – VETOED

Prohibits a person from intentionally injecting, releasing or dispensing or causing the injection, release or dispensation of any material within Arizona for solar radiation management and prohibits a political subdivision from providing any grants for the development of solar radiation management technologies. Outlines the Attorney General's authority to investigate solar radiation management violations and file enforcement actions. *Solar radiation management* is the modification or attempted modification of atmospheric reflectivity that modifies the amount or intensity of sunlight that reaches the Earth.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that she commits to working with the Legislature to ensure Arizona's clean and healthy air but that H.B. 2042 is a solution to a non-existent problem without science or data to back up its claims.

brackish groundwater recovery program (H.B. 2055) – VETOED

Establishes the Brackish Groundwater Recovery Program Fund (Fund), administered by the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority, to provide matching dollars for the development and construction of qualifying brackish groundwater recovery and desalination projects outside the boundaries of an initial active management area. Prescribes Fund administration and application and request for proposal requirements.

Allows Long-Term Water Augmentation Fund monies and assets to be used for developing one or more brackish groundwater recovery projects that create new sources of potable water within the state.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2055 diverts funding intended to develop new water sources for Arizona's future to groundwater extraction proposals that are currently eligible for other funding programs.

domestic water improvement districts; hauling (H.B. 2102) – VETOED

Allows a water improvement district to be established for the purpose of constructing and operating a domestic water delivery system that is located in a subsequent active management area (AMA) or a groundwater transportation basin for the purpose of delivering water through water hauling. A water improvement district that is formed in a subsequent AMA or groundwater transportation basin may exercise the power of eminent domain only for the limited purpose of acquiring or otherwise securing a site in the subsequent AMA or groundwater transportation basin for the construction of and legal access to a single well and a standpipe to produce water and make water available at the site for delivery through water hauling. When the public interest or convenience requires, a water improvement district board of directors may order the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, maintenance or repair of wells and standpipes.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2102 is an attempt to create political cover for the Legislature's inaction on rural groundwater protections and that making statutory tweaks to emphasize water hauling as the solution to rural Arizona's water challenges does not provide for meaningful reforms to secure water for future generations.

water improvements program; water hauling (H.B. 2103) – VETOED

Adds acquiring or installing storage tanks for water delivered through water hauling to the list of approved uses of grants awarded through a water improvements program. Deems groundwater transportation fees to be general county monies and requires the fees to be deposited in the county general fund. A county with a water improvements program may designate an amount or percentage of the total groundwater transportation fees to be used for qualified owners of residential property who reside within the groundwater transportation basin.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2103 is an attempt to create political cover for the Legislature's inaction on rural groundwater protections and that making statutory tweaks to emphasize water hauling as the solution to rural Arizona's water challenges does not provide for meaningful reforms to secure water for future generations.

public service corporation; rates; intervenor (H.B. 2113) – VETOED

Requires the Director of the Residential Utility Consumer Office (RUCO) to intervene in a public service corporation rate case if the impact of the public service corporation's proposed rate increase to residential customers is 100 percent or more.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2113 would threaten RUCO's ability to effectively represent residential ratepayers by removing its discretion to engage in rate cases without delivering proper resources.

property tax; agricultural real property (H.B. 2261) – VETOED

SEE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Arizona geological survey; analysis; division (H.B. 2262) – VETOED

Transfers administration of the Resource Analysis Division (Division) from the Arizona State Land Department (ASLD) to the Arizona Geological Survey and requires the State Geologist to collaborate with the ASLD to fulfill the duties of the Division and advise the ASLD on request. The State Geologist may engage the services of Division employees and have reasonable access to ASLD data and other resources. On request of the Commissioner of the ASLD, the State Geologist must update the maps and inventories of the aggregate resources located on lands under the jurisdiction of the ASLD and include areas of aggregate resources discovered since the previous publication.

The Arizona Geographic Information Council (Council) must advise the Arizona Geological Survey, rather than the Arizona State Cartographer's Office, on matters related to geospatial data sharing and strategies to support a geospatial clearinghouse and statewide geographic information system. Adds the Arizona Geological Survey to the list of entities for which the Council must prioritize user requirements on matters related to geographic information systems, geospatial data, technologies, products, services, standards, programs and activities.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2262 lacks a clear fiscal, operational and governance plan and, because it leaves questions about funding, staffing, regulatory authority and system continuity, H.B. 2262 risks disruption to the statewide systems on which agencies and stakeholders rely.

~~state land use; highest; best~~ (NOW: state lands; commercial leases; auction) (H.B. 2755) – VETOED

Requires the Commissioner of the Arizona State Land Department (ASLD) to prioritize the sale of state lands that are subject to an underperforming commercial lease if the lessee provides notice to the ASLD that the lessee is willing and prepared to purchase the parcel. A person who holds an underperforming commercial lease or who held an underperforming commercial lease that expired less than one year before the application date, may apply to purchase the underperforming commercial state lands.

Within 18 months after receiving an application to purchase underperforming commercial state lands, the Commissioner of the ASLD (Commissioner) must appraise, advertise and cause the underperforming commercial state lands to be sold at public auction, as prescribed. If an applicant's underperforming commercial lease expires or an applicant applies to renew the underperforming commercial lease during the 18-month time frame and the applicant does not withdraw the application, the Commissioner must proceed with the auction.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2755 allows lessees to compel a sale of state trust land which overrides the Commissioner's independent fiduciary judgment about when a sale serves the state land trust beneficiaries.

federal nullification; Mexican wolf; reintroduction (H.B. 2787) – VETOED

Prohibits the state, a state agency or a political subdivision, and any state agency or political subdivision employee acting in their official capacity, from using any personnel or financial resources to enforce, administer or cooperate with the Mexican Wolf Reintroduction Program under the federal Endangered Species Act.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2787 broadly restricts how Arizona can respond to the Mexican Wolf Reintroduction Program.

CAP water; state land; allocation (H.B. 2985) – VETOED

Requires the Arizona State Land Department (ASLD) to initiate a public stakeholder process to adopt a procedure for allocating Central Arizona Project (CAP) water that is currently allocated to the ASLD pursuant to the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's final allocation of CAP water dated January 10, 1983, to parcels of state trust land that may be sold or leased.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that the ASLD already has a statutorily prescribed process for the allocation of CAP water.

Public Safety Committee

Senator Kevin Payne, Chairperson



Kiyahna Araza, Research Analyst
Sam Rosenberg, Assistant Research Analyst
Kendyl Mullins, Intern

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

special plate; Arizona space commission (S.B. 1020) – Chapter 13

SEE THE APPROPRIATIONS, TRANSPORTATION & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE.

dangerous crimes against children; probation (S.B. 1092) – Chapter 27

Prohibits a court, for a person convicted of a dangerous crime against children on or after January 1, 2027, from: 1) terminating probation or intensive probation earlier than what was originally imposed; or 2) applying earned-time or work-time credit towards a period of probation.

peace officer certification; alternative pathway (S.B. 1107) – Chapter 32

Requires, beginning January 1, 2027, the Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board (AZPOST) to establish an alternative pathway for peace officer certification that counts an applicant's military police training and experience toward AZPOST requirements and offers an abbreviated AZPOST program to former military police officers who were honorably discharged. An eligible applicant must pass the AZPOST-approved certification examination and maintain all current statutory requirements relating to character, fitness and background investigations and AZPOST must process applications within 60 days. Designates this legislation as the *Military Police to Peace Officer Pathway Act*.

~~drones; entertainment districts; prohibition~~ (NOW: drones; entertainment events; prohibition) (S.B. 1160) – Chapter 215

Prohibits a person from intentionally operating a civil unmanned aircraft within one mile of or above a ticketed entertainment event and classifies a violation as a class 1 misdemeanor, unless the person: 1) obtains written consent from a person with legal authority over the event; 2) is conducting official business as an employee of the property where the event is being held or of a public or regulated utility; 3) is a city, town, county or state employee operating the civil unmanned aircraft while acting in the employee's official capacity; or 4) is operating the person's own civil unmanned aircraft above the person's own private property, consistent with federal law, and not for commercial purposes or to communicate or record a message for commercial broadcasting or publication or monitor or otherwise interfere with the event.

traumatic event counseling (S.B. 1216) – Chapter 18

Eliminates the January 1, 2027, termination date for traumatic event counseling for peace officers, firefighters and public safety employees and adds crime scene and digital forensics technicians who experience a traumatic event to the list of professionals who may qualify for 12 visits of traumatic event counseling.

public safety employees; counseling; wellness (S.B. 1400) – Chapter 173

Allows a state agency to establish a crisis response services program to provide support to public safety employees who experience a traumatic event or emotional experience during employment. Any crisis response services communication: 1) must remain confidential; 2) may not be disclosed, with certain exceptions; and 3) is subject to the same protections as attorney-client privilege.

Allows a law enforcement agency to establish a wellness program that supports employee mental health and well-being and that includes access to licensed counseling, crisis response services, training, equipment and technology necessary to perform the employee's job and any other support systems. A law enforcement agency that creates a wellness program must establish written policies and procedures for the program. All proceedings, records, opinions, conclusions and recommendations arising from any aspect of a wellness program are confidential and privileged from disclosure, with certain exceptions.

missing; kidnapped children; reporting requirements (S.B. 1416) – Chapter 174

Modifies the mandatory reporting required when a law enforcement agency (LEA) receives a report of a missing, kidnapped or runaway child by: 1) removing the requirement for the LEA to submit a recent photo of the child to specified entities within two hours after receiving the report; 2) requiring the LEA to submit additional identifying information to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children within 24 hours after receiving the report; 3) requiring the LEA to provide to appropriate media outlets and post on its official social media platforms a complete physical description of the child, last known location, clothing last worn, current photographs, if available, and the LEA's telephone number, unless providing or posting the information would interfere with locating the child or compromise the child’s safety, an ongoing investigation or the apprehension of a suspect; and 4) requiring the LEA to enter into the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System all required and available information, including a photo taken within the previous 180 days and medical and dental records, within 30 days after receiving the report.

Each LEA must develop, implement and regularly update training criteria, as prescribed, regarding the mandatory reporting requirements for a missing, kidnapped or runaway child and conduct trainings at hire and once every two years for all employees directly involved in missing-children cases, including supervisors and communication dispatchers.

An LEA's training on the mandatory reporting requirements for the Seek and Find Alert Notification System must occur at hire and once every two years, rather than at hire and twice every year.

aggravated assault; utility workers (S.B. 1448) – Chapter 177

Expands the *aggravated assault* criminal classification to include committing assault while knowing or having reason to know that the victim is an employee of a utility, public utility or licensed telecommunications or video service provider who is engaged in the employee's work duties.

cargo theft task force (S.B. 1452) – Chapter 229

Requires the Attorney General (AG), subject to legislative appropriation, to establish a Cargo Theft Task Force (Task Force) to combat crimes involving the theft, diversion, embezzlement, unlawful taking or fraudulent acquisition of cargo or freight and prescribes Task Force membership and duties. By July 1 of each year, the AG must submit a report on the Task Force's activities to the Governor, Legislature and Secretary of State that includes: 1) a summary of investigations, prosecutions and enforcement actions and information regarding cargo theft trends and patterns; 2) the number of cases in which restitution was ordered and the total value of restitution ordered and collected; 3) the amount and type of stolen cargo recovered and the value of assets forfeited; and 4) any recommendations for legislative or policy action to reduce cargo theft and protect the state's economy.

~~disciplinary action; appeal; superior court~~ (NOW: law enforcement; reinstatement; costs) (S.B. 1493) – Chapter 179

Stipulates that, if a hearing officer, administrative law judge or appeals board determines that a law enforcement officer's termination was without just cause and the employer fails to reinstate the officer and a subsequent action brought in the superior court also determines that the termination was without just cause, the employer must pay all taxable costs and reasonable attorney and expert fees incurred by the officer for the initial and subsequent appeals.

~~public pensions; proxy voting~~ (NOW: first responders; state death benefit) (S.B. 1503) – Chapter 64 RFEIR-E

An emergency measure effective April 15, 2026, retroactive to January 1, 2026, and 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 a pilot who is employed by a law enforcement agency to the list of first responders who qualify for the state death benefit.

air ambulance services (H.B. 2179) – Chapter 51

SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.

testimony; disciplinary action; prohibition (H.B. 2253) – Chapter 88

Precludes an agency, employer or political subdivision from: 1) prohibiting or obstructing an employee from providing testimony to an administrative or judicial proceeding relating to the appeal of a disciplinary action by a law enforcement officer; and 2) taking any retaliatory action against an employee for providing testimony in any proceeding to determine whether evidence should not be disclosed during an appeal of a disciplinary action by a law enforcement officer.

county seal; authority; sheriff 's posse (H.B. 2270) – Chapter 53

Requires a person to receive approval from the county board of supervisors (county BOS) or the elected official in control of a county office before using an imitation or likeness of the logo, insignia or another visual or textual identifier of the county or county office. The county BOS or the elected official in control of the applicable county office may grant a certificate of approval to a person showing good cause for the use of the logo, insignia or another visual or textual identifier for a proper purpose. A county BOS may: 1) also act on a request of a county elected official for the county office to which the official is elected; and 2) adopt rules for the use of the logo, insignia or another visual or textual identifier, including rules for official county business. A county that maintains a website must display the adopted logo or insignia and instructions on how to obtain approval for use on its website. A person may not use a logo, insignia or another visual or textual identifier of a county or county office to advertise or promote the sale of any article of merchandise or promote any other commercial purpose.

Grants a county sheriff the exclusive right to name any posse that is associated with the sheriff's office and to dissolve any posse that operates under the sheriff's jurisdiction.

~~authorized transporters~~ (NOW: transportation; mental health; patients) (H.B. 2404) – Chapter 199

Beginning January 1, 2030, prohibits a peace officer from transporting a person from a hospital emergency department or a locked unit of a behavioral health facility to another health care institution or an evaluation or mental health treatment agency, unless: 1) the person is incarcerated; 2) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the patient or proposed patient cannot be safely apprehended without an officer's assistance; or 3) any person requests an officer by dialing 911 or a similar designated telephone number for emergency calls and needs emergency assistance. In all other circumstances, an authorized transporter must conduct the apprehension and transport of a patient or proposed patient.

excessive speed; speed inhibiting device (H.B. 2417) – Chapter 200

Beginning July 1, 2027, allows a person to request the court to order the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to require a speed inhibiting device to be installed in the person's motor vehicle, in lieu of suspending the person's driving privilege, for a period that is equivalent to the suspension that would have otherwise been imposed for: 1) specified aggressive driving violations; 2) a minor's first excessive speeding offense; or 3) accumulating excessive points against the person's driving record that would require a one-year suspension. ADOT may not reinstate the person's driving privilege until a functioning speed inhibiting device is installed and the device manufacturer or provider has electronically provided acceptable proof of installation to ADOT. A person whose driver license is suspended may request a hearing within 15 days after the date of the suspension order. A timely request for a hearing stays the suspension until a hearing is held. A person whose driving privilege is limited and who operates a vehicle without a speed inhibiting device installed is guilty of a class 1 misdemeanor, with certain exceptions.

The Assistant Director for the Motor Vehicle Division of ADOT must: 1) certify speed inhibiting devices that meet prescribed requirements; 2) publish and make available to the courts

a list of speed inhibiting devices that may be ordered; 3) establish standards and qualifications for technicians; 4) adopt a label affixed to each speed inhibiting device that contains a warning that a person misusing the device is guilty of a class 1 misdemeanor; and 5) adopt rules, as prescribed. A speed inhibiting device manufacturer may collect only necessary data to support compliance, evaluate program performance and improve system accuracy and effectiveness.

Prescribes administrative requirements for the courts and ADOT and incorporates the use of speed inhibiting devices in the administrative procedures prescribed for the immobilization or impoundment of a vehicle that is operated without a functioning ignition interlock device.

~~mental illness; prisoners; diagnosis; treatment.~~ (NOW: study committee; inmate mental health) (H.B. 2673) – Chapter 105

Establishes the 13-member Study Committee on Inmate Mental Health Services (Study Committee) and outlines Study Committee membership. The Study Committee must: 1) examine ways to improve the screening process for individuals who are arrested and taken to jail or prison; 2) study and recommend ways to improve access to adequate mental health screenings for inmates; 3) study and address ways to improve screenings for mental health risks for inmates; and 4) submit an annual report detailing the Study Committee's activities and recommendations to the Governor, Legislature and Secretary of State by December 31. Terminates the Study Committee on January 1, 2028.

license; driver; nonoperating; medical indicia (H.B. 2772) – Chapter 113

Beginning January 1, 2027, requires the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to provide on each driver license and nonoperating identification license a space where a licensee may indicate that the licensee: 1) suffers from some type of adverse medical condition using a medical indicator, rather than a medical code prescribed by ADOT; and 2) has an advanced health care directive. At each license renewal, the licensee must affirm to ADOT that the medical indicator or the health care directive remain in effect. ADOT may not maintain any provided documentation relating to the medical indicator or advanced health care directive in ADOT's computer records after the license is issued.

Expands the immunity from liability granted to direct care staff and medical emergency personnel who make a good faith effort to identify the patient in the event of cardiac or respiratory arrest to: 1) add civilian bystanders to the persons immune from liability; and 2) add an indicator on the patient's driver or nonoperating identification license to the items on which a direct care staff, medical emergency personnel or civilian bystander may rely.

motorcycles; reckless driving (H.B. 2941) – Chapter 261

Specifies that a person commits *reckless driving* by operating a motorcycle between the lanes of traffic or to overtake and pass a vehicle in the same lane, unless the movement may be made safely and the operator: 1) operates the motorcycle on a street with a maximum speed of 45 miles per hour that is divided into at least two adjacent lanes in the same direction of travel; and 2) travels at a speed that does not exceed 15 miles per hour.

~~technical correction; public records~~ (NOW: sheriff; exclusive authority; auxiliary) (H.B. 4018) – Chapter 211

Allows a county sheriff to use the aid of volunteer posse and reserve organizations located in the county to execute the sheriff's statutory duties. When activated by a county sheriff, the sheriff has the exclusive authority to regulate the organization and equipment used by a posse or reserve organization acting within the sheriff's authority and written policy in support of the sheriff's office, consistent with law.

county sheriffs; expressing support (H.C.R. 2059)

Declares that the Legislature: 1) supports county sheriffs; 2) recognizes the supreme constitutional authority of county sheriffs over their respective jurisdictions; and 3) encourages Arizonans to support and appreciate county sheriffs and their service to our communities.

LEGISLATION VETOED

~~Charlie Kirk highway~~ (NOW: Charlie Kirk Loop 202) (S.B. 1010/H.B. 4027) – VETOED

Designates the Loop 202 as the *Charlie Kirk Loop 202* and requires the Arizona Department of Transportation to erect reasonable signage throughout Loop 202. The new designation is not intended to supersede any current designations assigned to the Loop 202 by the Arizona State Board on Geographic and Historical Names (ASBGHN).

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1010 inserts politics into a function of government that should remain nonpartisan and that any highway renaming must follow the current process through ASBGHN and may not be circumvented by the Legislature.

telecommunications infrastructure; equipment requirements (S.B. 1046) – VETOED

Beginning January 1, 2027, establishes the *Secure Telecommunications Act of 2026*. 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 any prohibited equipment or service. Prescribes penalties for violating the prohibition.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1046 uses broad language that would create undue difficulty for the business community and generate costs to taxpayers.

arrestees; unlawfully present; reporting (S.B. 1055) – VETOED

SEE THE MILITARY AFFAIRS & BORDER SECURITY COMMITTEE.

firearms transactions; merchant codes; prohibition (S.B. 1058) – VETOED

Establishes the *Second Amendment Financial Privacy Act* (Act) which prohibits: 1) a government entity from keeping a list, record or registry of privately-owned firearms or firearm owners, with exceptions; 2) a payment card network from requiring or incentivizing the use of a merchant category code (MCC) in a manner that distinguishes a firearm retailer from other retailers; and 3) a person and covered entity from assigning an MCC in a manner that distinguishes a firearm retailer from other retailers. The Attorney General or a county attorney must investigate a violation of the prohibitions. The court must grant injunctions, award attorney fees and costs and assess civil penalties. The remedies set forth in the Act are 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 are vital tools that help law enforcement crack down on illegal gun trafficking to transnational criminal organizations and S.B. 1058 would make it harder for law enforcement to catch violent criminals.

public schools; interoperable communications; requirements (S.B. 1315) – VETOED

SEE THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

photo radar enforcement; civil penalty (S.B. 1624) – VETOED

Subjects a person who is found responsible for a civil traffic violation that results from a photo enforcement system, excluding red light and school crossing violations, to a civil penalty of up to $75 and requires $15 of the penalty to be deposited in the Peace Officer Training Equipment Fund. Outlines prohibitions relating to record transmission, license suspension consideration and insurance policies.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1624 poses a national safety risk for interstate commerce regulation and would undermine the cities' ability to decide law enforcement policies.

critical infrastructure; foreign adversaries; prohibition (H.B. 2134) – VETOED

Prohibits any software used for critical infrastructure in Arizona from being produced by a Chinese company and precludes a governmental entity, critical infrastructure service provider or publicly regulated utility from entering into or renewing an agreement or contract with a Chinese company or the People's Republic of China if the agreement or contract provides access to critical infrastructure in Arizona, with certain exceptions for governmental entities and publicly regulated utilities. By January 1 of each year, each critical communications infrastructure provider (communications provider) that is a participant in the federal Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program must certify to the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) any instance of prohibited critical communications infrastructure equipment use. Each certified communications provider must submit status reports to the ACC in conjunction with federal reporting requirements and is exempt from additional permitting requirements to remove or replace prohibited equipment. By March 31 of each year, each governmental entity and critical

infrastructure service provider must certify to the ACC that the provider has not attached to critical infrastructure or connected to any operating system used by the provider any additional equipment that is prohibited by the ACC and that was not in use before September 12, 2026.

The ACC must annually publish a list of prohibited equipment and post the list on its website by December 31 and implement a risk-based oversight program as outlined. A governmental entity or critical infrastructure service provider must remove any prohibited equipment on the ACC's list if monies are appropriated and distributed to facilitate the removal.

The Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (DEMA) must establish a secure and dedicated communications channel for critical infrastructure providers and military installations to connect with DEMA and the Governor's Office in the event of an emergency. Designates this legislation as the *Arizona Critical Infrastructure Protection Act*.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2134 would impose costly burdens on critical infrastructure providers, risks creating unintended consequences for Arizona's economy and threatens the stability of critical infrastructure systems.

state contracts; foreign adversary; prohibition (H.B. 2170) – VETOED

Prohibits a company from bidding on, submitting a proposal for or contracting with a state agency for electronic or information technology if the company is domiciled in and controlled or majority-owned by the People's Republic of China. Each company that submits a bid or proposal for a state contract for electronic or information technology must certify to the Arizona Department of Administration that the company is not domiciled in the People's Republic of China. Prescribes civil penalties for companies that submit a false certification letter and prohibits such companies from bidding on any state contracts for at least 60 months. A state agency may enter into a contract for electronic or information technology manufactured by a company domiciled in the People's Republic of China if certain conditions are met. Designates this legislation as the *Protection Procurement Act*.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2170 is overly broad and would dramatically increase costs to taxpayers when purchasing goods and services.

community supervision; rehabilitation; costs (H.B. 2771) – VETOED

Allows the Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR) to require a prisoner to pay the reasonable costs associated with the prisoner's participation in a rehabilitation program as a condition of community supervision.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2771 creates barriers to rehabilitative programming which would negatively impact individuals on community supervision.

Regulatory Affairs & Government Efficiency Committee

Senator Shawnna Bolick, Chairperson



Jason Theodorou, Research Analyst

Nick Gustoff, Assistant Research Analyst

Hayden Darst, Intern

REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

optometrists; eye exams; prescriptions (S.B. 1023) – Chapter 6

Requires an optometrist to conduct an eye examination according to the standards of care prevalent in the community, with a recommended examination interval of one year, and allows an optometrist to extend an eyeglass prescription for up to two years or reduce an eyeglass prescription based on the presence or absence of any risk category of the patient and any medical or other factor attributable to the patient.

underground facilities; excavations; notification (S.B. 1137) – Chapter 147

Requires an excavator, before submitting a location request to a one-call notification center, to clearly and carefully mark with white lining the area that is requested to be excavated in compliance with a color code that is established by the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) or by custom or standard. Excludes, from the white lining requirements, excavations that are performed by a person on a single-family residential property that is owned or occupied by that person. Requires an excavator that proposes to perform a large project to notify a one-call notification center as soon as possible but within 15 business days or 21 calendar days before the proposed start date to schedule a large project coordination meeting. Outlines requirements for a large project coordination meeting.

Requires the one-call notification center to provide an Interactive Positive Response System (Interactive PRS), which is a tool for communication between the excavator and underground facilities operator for the status of locating sites, work updates, changes in scheduling and other factors that may impact a large project. The excavator, local jurisdiction and underground facilities operator may agree to a phased marking schedule for a large project that provides timely and accurate markings of active work areas as submitted by the excavator within the marking request. Compliance with an agreed phased schedule for marking complies with the prescribed excavation notice and marking requirements.

Within one year after September 12, 2026, the one-call notification center, in consultation with the ACC and impacted stakeholders, must: 1) establish a method to implement the underground facilities statutes, including procedures for large project tickets, mandatory white lining, the Interactive PRS and minimum technical and data security standards; and 2) establish minimum technical and data security standards for the Interactive PRS. Specifies the applicability of civil penalties for a violation of the underground facilities statutes.

behavior analysts; committee; regulatory authority (S.B. 1145) – Chapter 148

Beginning January 1, 2027, requires the Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners (Board) to delegate responsibilities relating to licensing and regulating behavior analysts to the Board's

Committee on Behavior Analysts (Committee). The Board must adopt substantive policy statements for each specific licensing and regulatory authority delegated to the Committee. Reduces the Board to eight members by removing the two behavior analyst members who are in professional practice.

ALTCS; providers; change of ownership (S.B. 1164) – Chapter 150

Requires the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) and its contractors, when there is a change of ownership of a licensed skilled nursing facility or assisted living facility, and upon the new owner's request, to: 1) continue to process claims for services rendered to Arizona Long-Term Care System members; and 2) make claim payments under the previous owner's AHCCCS number and subcontracts until the new owner's system enrollment and contracting process is completed. The current or new owner must provide written notice to AHCCCS at least 60 days before an anticipated change of ownership and respond to all provider enrollment requests within 10 business days.

~~ballots; categories; count~~ (NOW: licensees; exemptions; business entities) (S.B. 1168) – Chapter 72

Exempts a recognized dental school, dental therapy school or dental hygiene school from business entity or facility registration requirements with the Arizona Board of Dental Examiners (BODEX). Requires a recognized dental school to annually provide BODEX a list of the licensed dentists, dental therapists and dental hygienists that the school employs to practice in the school's clinical departments or laboratories. If BODEX receives a complaint that names a recognized dental school or that arises from dental care provided at a school, BODEX must forward the complaint to the school within six months. After receiving a complaint forwarded by BODEX, the recognized dental school must review the complaint in accordance with the school's internal quality assurance process. BODEX does not have jurisdiction or authority over a person who is acting in the scope of practice for clinical departments or laboratories of a recognized dental, dental therapy or dental hygiene school, with certain exceptions.

certified public accountants; certification; alternative (S.B. 1181) – Chapter 17

Beginning January 1, 2027, expands the pathways for certification as a certified public accountant (CPA) by requiring an applicant to present satisfactory evidence to the Arizona State Board of Accountancy (Board) that the applicant has obtained: 1) a bachelor's degree and at least two years of experience; 2) a bachelor's degree with 30 additional semester hours and at least one year of experience; or 3) a graduate degree and at least one year of experience. Modifies the qualifications for limited reciprocity privilege by requiring an individual to either meet the expanded pathway certification requirements or hold a valid active registration, certificate or license as a CPA from any jurisdiction as of December 31, 2024. Removes the prescribed number of relevant semester hours an applicant must obtain for CPA certification and instead directs the Board to adopt rules regarding the number of semester hours of accounting and related courses to fulfill CPA certification requirements. Modifies the Board's power and duties relating to CPA registration periods, certification statuses and disciplinary proceedings. Designates this legislation as the *Certified Public Accounting Act of 2026.*

~~campaign spending; personal security~~ (NOW: construction contracts; revitalization districts) (S.B. 1189) – Chapter 217

Requires a revitalization district infrastructure construction contract to include provisions that: 1) allow a contractor or subcontractor to suspend or terminate the contract for a failure to make timely payments; 2) allow a contractor or subcontractor that suspends performance to withhold labor, materials and services until being paid; 3) require reasonable attorney fees and costs to be awarded to the successful party in any action or arbitration to enforce the prescribed contract rights; and 4) require the contractor or subcontractor to provide written notice to the revitalization district within prescribed timeframes prior to any contract suspension or termination.

Any written notice of an intended construction contract suspension or termination is deemed provided if it is: 1) delivered in person to the individual, member or officer of the entity for which it is intended; or 2) sent by any method that provides written, third-party verification of delivery to the last known business address of the party giving notice. The prescribed construction contract requirements apply to construction contracts executed on or after September 12, 2026.

motor vehicle booting; fees; regulation (S.B. 1205) – Chapter 156

Precludes a city or town from adopting a regulation that prohibits booting a motor vehicle located on private property without the motor vehicle owner's or operator's permission and allows a city or town to adopt a regulation regarding motor vehicle booting service rates, signage and release practices that are consistent with statute. A private property owner is deemed to have given consent to unrestricted parking by the general public in the private property's parking area, unless the parking area has signs that note parking restrictions and booting information that are clearly visible and readable from any point within the parking area and at each entrance.

Authorizes a motor vehicle booting service to boot a motor vehicle on private property if the service obtains written permission from the property owner or receives a request from a law enforcement agency. A motor vehicle booting service may not boot a: 1) motor vehicle that is displaying a tax-exempt license plate; 2) marked emergency motor vehicle; 3) motor vehicle with an occupant; or 4) motor vehicle that remains parked for less than 15 minutes after the paid parking period expires. Outlines fee requirements for a motor vehicle booting service, including capped fee amounts and timeframes for the release of a booted vehicle. A motor vehicle booting service must maintain a time-stamp method of recording calls that request the release of a booted vehicle for at least 90 days and make the record available to the city or town at no charge within 5 days of a request. A violation of the motor vehicle booting service requirements is a class 2 misdemeanor.

~~storm related insurance claims~~ (NOW: storm related insurance claims; adjusters) (S.B. 1206) – Chapter 157

SEE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

EMS reciprocity; compact. (S.B. 1235) – Chapter 159

Adopts the Emergency Medical Services Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact (Compact), which allows licensed emergency medical services (EMS) personnel, including

emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians and paramedics, to obtain licensure in any other Compact state. 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 database; 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.

Beginning September 12, 2026, or on approval from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, a person applying for initial certification as an emergency medical care technician pursuant to the Compact must possess a valid fingerprint clearance card.

~~assisted living centers; occupants~~ (NOW: assisted living; occupants) (S.B. 1247) – Chapter 14 E

An emergency measure effective April 6, 2026, that allows an individual who does not receive supervisory, personal or directed care services to live with a resident within the resident's unit or another unit at the assisted living center or home, if allowed by the assisted living center or home. The Department of Health Services may not: 1) place any requirement on that individual with which a resident would not need to comply; or 2) require that individual to have a service plan or receive supervisory, personal or directed care services.

~~real property conveyances; formal requirements~~ (NOW: industrial commission; revisions) (S.B. 1254) – Chapter 73

Removes, from the general powers of the Industrial Commission of Arizona (ICA), the authority to license and supervise the work of private employment offices. Requires the ICA to administer statutory boiler and elevator safety requirements under separate boiler and elevator divisions. The ICA must post the workers' compensation schedule of fees on its website and prepare and file a notice of public information with the website address to be published in the Arizona Administrative Register. Renames the *ICA Ombudsman* as the *ICA Resource Officer* and renames the *Director of the Arizona Division of Occupational Safety and Health* (ADOSH) as the *Chief of ADOSH*.

~~special plate; police foundation~~ (NOW: licensure; timeshare salespersons) (S.B. 1274) – Chapter 220

Beginning July 1, 2027, requires a person acting in the capacity of a timeshare salesperson to be licensed with the Arizona Department of Real Estate (ADRE) and allows the Commissioner of the ADRE (Commissioner) to adopt rules that specify the requirements of examination

preparation courses for timeshare salesperson applicants. The timeshare salesperson examination and preparation course must be limited to the specific real estate laws, regulations, business practices and canons of business ethics that are directly related to the sale of timeshare interests. The Commissioner must ascertain that a timeshare salesperson applicant has: 1) an appropriate knowledge of elementary arithmetic and the English language; and 2) a general understanding of applicable timeshare statutes and adopted rules, timeshare ownership methods and the canons of business ethics pertaining to timeshares. Allows the Commissioner to issue a onetime 30-day certificate of convenience, without examination, to any person who has applied and otherwise qualifies for a timeshare salesperson license. The Commissioner may take outlined disciplinary actions if a person engaged in the business of a timeshare salesperson without holding a license.

Allows a licensed real estate broker or salesperson to engage in timeshare sales activities without a separate license. Limits a real estate licensee to only one employing broker in the timeshare category. An employing timeshare plan developer's designated broker must certify by affidavit to the Commissioner that the timeshare salesperson applicant will be trained in applicable timeshare and contract laws before participating in any offer or sale.

veterinarian visits; electronic means; prescriptions (S.B. 1286) – Chapter 167

Modifies the time periods for which a veterinarian may prescribe drugs and medications after establishing a veterinarian client patient relationship through electronic means as follows: 1) prescriptions for non-antimicrobial drugs and non-flea and tick drugs may only be issued for up to 30 days and may be renewed one time for up to 30 days with an additional electronic exam; 2) prescriptions for antimicrobial drugs may be issued only for one period of up to 14 days; and 3) prescriptions for flea and tick drugs may be initially issued for up to three months and may be renewed one time for a period of up to three months.

~~commercial buildings; telecommunications services~~ (NOW: study committee towing) (S.B. 1366) – Chapter 172

SEE THE APPROPRIATIONS, TRANSPORTATION & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE.

insurance adjuster license; eligibility (S.B. 1415) – Chapter 11

Specifies that an insurer's or managing general agent's salaried employee is eligible to be licensed as an adjuster without taking the state adjuster examination, if the person: 1) is an Arizona resident and held an active designated home state adjuster license in another state before January 1, 2026; 2) qualified for the designated home state adjuster license by passing a state-approved examination; 3) is currently in good standing in the other state; and 4) submits an application for licensure by virtue of holding an active designated home state adjuster license and submits the required fee and fingerprints by June 30, 2027. A licensed salaried employee adjuster must only adjust claims for an insurer or managing general agent. The salaried employee adjuster license is valid and renewable only for as long as and until the time the person ceases to adjust claims as a salaried employee of the licensed insurer or managing general agent.

social workers; documentation; dialysis centers (S.B. 1446) – Chapter 176

Prohibits the Department of Health Services from requiring a social worker employed by an outpatient treatment center that provides dialysis services to document the progress of a patient who receives dialysis services in the patient's medical record more frequently than on a quarterly basis, unless otherwise required by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

assisted living homes; occupancy; zoning (S.B. 1473) – Chapter 19

Declares the occupancy limit of an assisted living home to be a matter of statewide concern and preempts further regulation by a city, town or county. Prohibits a city, town, or county from adopting any regulation relating to the operation of an assisted living home that: 1) imposes an occupancy cap that is lower than 10 residents; 2) restricts an assisted living home from operating on a property that is zoned for residential use based on either the number of residents who reside at the home, if the number of residents is 10 or fewer, or the classification of the home as assisted living use; or 3) requires an assisted living home to obtain a variance, conditional use permit, reasonable accommodation or rezoning based solely on the number of residents who reside at the home. A person may assert a violation of the assisted living home occupancy regulations and bring an action for declaratory or injunctive relief in a court of competent jurisdiction. The court may award attorney fees and costs to a prevailing plaintiff.

assisted living facilities; referral agents (S.B. 1477) – Chapter 178

Requires an assisted living facility or assisted living home referral agency (referral agency) to either: 1) provide documentation to the assisted living facility or home that its referral agent is not on the adult protective services registry; or 2) include that the referral agency annually uses a nationally accredited service provider to obtain criminal history record information for new employees who have direct contact with consumers or physically enter assisted living facilities or homes to make referrals. Prescribes minimum liability insurance requirements for referral agencies.

liquor; policies; procedures (S.B. 1478) – Chapter 70

Allows the Director of the Department of Liquor Licenses and Control to issue an interim permit to an applicant for a license of the same series, or for the replacement of a hotel-motel license with a restaurant license, at the same premises, regardless of whether that license has been used in the past three years. A license that expired or that was terminated, canceled or in nonuse at the premises meets the conditions for issuance of an interim permit.

Beginning January 1, 2027, redefines *cider* as any beverage that is made from the normal alcoholic fermentation of the juice of sound and ripe apples, pears or other pome fruit and that contains more than one-half of one percent of alcohol by volume and no more than eight and one-half percent of alcohol by volume. Clarifies that a licensed farm winery may label a wine for sale stating that at least 85 percent of the wine by volume is produced by grapes or other fruits grown within a federally recognized viticultural area in Arizona. Repeals the requirement for the production and storage spaces of licensed producers, craft distillers, brewers and farm wineries to be subject to federal food safety rules. Exempts *nonbeverage products* as defined in federal law

and that are qualified by the U.S. Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau as nonbeverage products from the liquor statutes.

deeds; identification; forgery; notice; notaries (S.B. 1479) – Chapter 31

Requires a person that is recording a document in-person at a county recorder's office or a recording kiosk to provide the county recorder with a valid form of identification, with certain exceptions. The county recorder may not retain a copy of the person's identification but must note the type of identification, the name on the identification and the identification number. The noted information is not a public record or subject to disclosure and is exempt from public records laws. By January 1, 2027, each county assessor must provide a voluntary system that promptly notifies a real property owner when the county assessor receives notice of a change in the ownership or mailing address for the real property owner.

Repeals the five-year statute of limitations relating to an action to recover a lot located in a city or town from a person who holds a recorded deed, claims ownership and has paid property taxes for five consecutive years. Increases, from a class 1 misdemeanor to a class 4 felony, the criminal penalty for knowingly recording a forged or groundless document asserting a claim to real property.

Requires a notary public, if the document to be notarized is a deed, quitclaim deed, deed of trust or other document that affects real property or a power of attorney document, to require the party signing the document to place the party's right thumbprint in the notary's journal. The thumbprint requirement does not apply to: 1) a trustee's deed that results from a judicial or nonjudicial foreclosure; 2) a deed of release and reconveyance; or 3) a notarial act performed for a remotely located individual if the notary journal includes the individual's identification credential number and the notary retains the audiovisual recording for at least seven years.

Requires an affidavit of legal value to include the telephone number of the buyer and seller of real property and allows the buyer and seller to provide additional contact information.

barbering and cosmetology board; continuation (S.B. 1563) – Chapter 234

Continues the Barbering and Cosmetology Board (Board) for eight years, until July 1, 2034, retroactive to July 1, 2026. Decreases statutory caps on certain fees that the Board may set in rule, including fees for application, licensure and renewal.

~~disposition; remains; authorization; legal decision-making~~ (NOW: legal decision-making; decedent; authorization) (S.B. 1668) – Chapter 74

Stipulates that the parents are responsible for funeral and disposition arrangements of a decedent who is a minor, unless there has been an award of legal decision-making or there is a parenting plan that prescribes which parent has final authority to make legal decisions on the child's behalf.

gaming; racing; boxing; conflict-of-interest continuation (S.B. 1671) – Chapter 239

Continues the Arizona Department of Gaming (ADG), Arizona Racing Commission (Racing Commission) and Arizona State Boxing and Mixed Martial Arts Commission (Boxing and MMA Commission) for six years, until July 1, 2032, retroactive to July 1, 2026. Adds conflict-of-interest disclosure requirements for all employees of the ADG, Racing Commission and Boxing and MMA Commission.

Requires the ADG to implement a complaint submission process and tracking system on its website. By September 30, the ADG must submit an annual report to the Governor and Legislature that includes aggregate complaint data relating to persons or entities that are licensed or regulated by the ADG. Requires the event wagering annual report to include: 1) a statement that indicates the number of independent audit results submitted by licensed event wagering operators and management services providers that were received by the ADG; and 2) any corrective actions taken by the ADG regarding overpayment or underpayment of event wagering privilege fees.

~~lactation care providers; certification~~ (NOW: Cesar Chavez day; repeal) (H.B. 2072) – Chapter 9 E

An emergency measure effective April 1, 2026, that repeals the Dr. Cesar Estrada Chavez Day state holiday.

board of technical registration; qualifications (H.B. 2122) – Chapter 44

Specifies that an applicant seeking professional registration with the Arizona Board of Technical Registration through reciprocity or endorsement must hold: 1) a valid license, registration or certification in the profession in which registration is sought; and 2) a valid record from the applicable profession's national council certifying that the individual satisfies the national council's requirements for certification, model law designation or mutual recognition agreement. Allows an applicant for registration as a professional engineer to meet the qualifications for reciprocity or endorsement by holding a record from the profession's national council verifying the person has at least four years of experience, rather than four years of experience following the person's licensure, registration or certification by the other jurisdiction.

firefighters; employment status (H.B. 2138) – Chapter 47

SEE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

physician assistants; licensure compact (H.B. 2190/S.B. 1238) – Chapter 3

Adopts the Physician Assistant Licensure Compact (Compact), which allows licensed physician assistants to obtain licensure in any other Compact member state. 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 outlined. 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 seventh member state.

commercial river outfitters; limited liability (H.B. 2279) – Chapter 196

Specifies that a commercial river outfitter does not have a duty to alter, eliminate, control or decrease the inherent risks of participating in a river trip in Grand Canyon National Park, unless the outfitter knows or should have known that a hazardous condition exists and fails to disclose the hazardous condition to a participant. The inherent risks of a river trip may be contractually identified by the commercial river outfitter and a river trip participant. The identification of inherent risks must be determinative and binding.

Grants a commercial river outfitter immunity from claims for injury or death that arise out of the inherent risks of a river trip. A person may voluntarily release a commercial river outfitter from liability for an injury to, or the death of, a person resulting from participation in a river trip in Grand Canyon National Park. A commercial river outfitter is immune from claims arising out of ordinary negligence only if the claims are contractually waived in a liability release.

dental insurers; dental practice; prohibition (H.B. 2308) – Chapter 89

Prohibits a dental insurer or dental insurer holding company from holding an ownership interest in a business organization that offers professional services to the public that are regulated by the Arizona State Board of Dental Examiners.

qualified marketplace contractors; employment (H.B. 2310) – Chapter 55

Specifies that a contract between a qualified marketplace contractor and a qualified marketplace platform and the association created by the contract may be terminated without cause: 1) at any time and on reasonable notice in which the contract expressly provides for termination by either party to the contract; or 2) unilaterally by a qualified marketplace contractor at any time on reasonable notice given to the other party. The contract termination specification applies to any contract or addendum entered into beginning September 13, 2026.

warranties; leased vehicles; lessee; definition (H.B. 2323) – Chapter 56

Modifies the definition of *consumer*, for the purposes of the Arizona Motor Vehicle Warranties Act, to include a motor vehicle lessee.

fire code; municipalities; county buildings (H.B. 2324) – Chapter 57

Allows a city or town that has adopted a nationally recognized fire code to request the Office of the State Fire Marshal (Office) to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with a county on behalf of the Office to enforce the fire code adopted by the city or town for county-owned buildings if: 1) the city or town submits the request in conjunction with the applicable county; 2) the enforcement of the state-adopted fire code for county-owned buildings is unduly burdensome; and 3) the city's or town's current fire code and enforcement are not substantially less stringent than the current state fire code. Requires the Office to act on a request within 30 days and state the reason for denial or approval. A city or town that enters into an intergovernmental agreement with a county is solely responsible for the inspection and enforcement of the fire code in all county-owned buildings in its jurisdiction and must provide the Office a record of the certificate of occupancy and all applicable fire code inspection reports and updated building inventory. Designates this legislation as the *Fire Marshal Bill Burns Act.*

homeowners' associations; shade structures (H.B. 2342) – Chapter 90

SEE THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.

~~school districts; leases; housing development~~ (NOW: trampoline court regulations; designation) (H.B. 2383) – Chapter 91

SEE THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

nursing board; regulatory actions; expungement (H.B. 2408) – Chapter 251

Directs the Arizona Board of Nursing (AZBN) to require complainants to identify themselves in the complaint and to make themselves available for an evidentiary interview. If a complainant refuses to identify themselves, the AZBN may take action on the complaint only if there is sufficient information that a violation may have occurred within its jurisdiction that directly impacts the safety of patients without the testimony of the anonymous complainant.

A complainant may request that their identity remain confidential during the investigatory process. If the investigatory process results in a determination that a violation of law may have occurred, the respondent is entitled to review the complete investigatory file, including the complainant's identity unless the AZBN finds that the complainant may reasonably fear retaliation or be endangered.

Requires the AZBN to: 1) limit an investigation to subjects and actions that are relevant and material to the issues raised in the complaint; 2) report alleged criminal conduct to the appropriate criminal justice agency; and 3) report conduct by a licensed individual that may violate the law or code of conduct to the appropriate state regulatory board or agency. The AZBN must implement a policy prioritizing complaints based on the harm to a patient or potentially to the public, notify respondents of an open investigation, provide access to investigative files using specified methods and take appropriate action on a complaint within 180 days.

Allows the AZBN to grant a request to expunge a disciplinary action previously imposed against a licensee or certificate holder if the terms of the disciplinary action have been met and there have been no subsequent violations within specified timeframes. The AZBN may not grant a request for expungement for certain disciplinary actions relating to criminal conduct or patient health and safety.

Adds, to the definition of *unprofessional conduct* for nursing professionals, engaging in sexual conduct with a current patient or with a former patient within six months after the last treatment unless the patient was the licensee's spouse at the time of the contact or, immediately preceding the nurse-patient relationship, was in a relationship with the licensee.

public cold plunge; rules; exemption (H.B. 2439) – Chapter 95

Exempts single-user public or semipublic cold plunges from the rules adopted by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality regarding the prevention of water pollution and deleterious conditions in public or semipublic swimming pools and bathing places.

appraisal management companies; definition (H.B. 2501) – Chapter 97

Modifies the definition of *appraisal management company* by specifying the 12-month period that is applicable when counting the number of appraisers on an appraisal management company's appraiser panel. Defines *12-month period* as the calendar year unless an alternative 12-month period is prescribed in rule by the Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions.

physicians; surgical centers; call coverage (H.B. 2686) – Chapter 106

Beginning January 1, 2027, requires an allopathic or osteopathic physician who performs surgeries at an outpatient surgical center to provide the center with an updated call-coverage plan, including the hospital call coverage, as changes are made and classifies failing to annually provide the center with the physician's call-coverage plan as an act of unprofessional conduct.

commerce authority; trade offices (H.B. 2752) – Chapter 110

Subjects the establishment and supervision of trade offices to legislative appropriation, rather than the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) Board of Directors' direction. Any legislative appropriation to establish and supervise trade office operations must be based on objective research prepared by the ACA. By December 1, the ACA must submit an annual report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee on trade office activities during the prior fiscal year and objective research that identifies potential trade offices. The Senate President and Speaker of the House of Representatives may designate individuals to serve in their place on the ACA Board of Directors.

food products; labeling; cultivated cells (H.B. 2762) – Chapter 204

SEE THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

shooting range; closure; conditions (H.B. 2763) – Chapter 255

SEE THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

~~notary public; examination; repeal~~ (NOW: public hearing definition; hearing officer) (H.B. 2837) – Chapter 114

Requires a party who gives testimony or submits written comments at a public hearing for a zoning ordinance before a municipality's planning commission, hearing officer or governing body to declare whether the party has received compensation to testify or submit comments.

Requires a member of a municipality's board of adjustment to disclose whether the member has been a board member or officer of any entity that appears before the board of adjustment. Requires a municipality's hearing officer to disclose whether the hearing officer has been a board member or officer of any entity that appears before the hearing officer. A member of the board of adjustment and a hearing officer are disqualified from participating in any matter that involves an entity on which the individual served as a board member or officer in the five years preceding the hearing date.

installation license; insurance; rules (H.B. 2868) – Chapter 115

Requires an applicant for an installation license for a manufactured or mobile home to provide evidence of and maintain insurance in an amount that will cover the cost of repairing all damage to the manufactured or mobile home and its supports that is caused by the installer during installation. A licensed installer must notify the Arizona Department of Housing of any changes or cancellations regarding insurance coverage. Requires an application for renewal of a current license involving the production, installation or sale of a manufactured or mobile home to include evidence of a valid fingerprint clearance card and proof of required insurance, if applicable.

Removes the requirement for the Board of Manufactured Housing to adopt: 1) separate rules for dealer trust and escrow accounts; 2) rules establishing procedures for cosmetic complaints filed by purchasers of new manufactured homes; and 3) rules establishing procedures for scheduling repair and replacement of cosmetic complaint items.

local regulation; prohibition; unmanned aircraft (H.B. 2875) – Chapter 116

Includes a commercial drone delivery system in the city, town and county prohibition against regulating unmanned aircraft and specifies that the prohibition against city, town and county regulations for unmanned aircraft does not: 1) prohibit a city, town or county from adopting an ordinance or rule on land use approvals for taking off, docking and landing a commercial drone delivery system in or near an area zoned for residential use; 2) allow a city, town or county to withhold issuing a permit or approval for operating, taking off, docking or landing an unmanned aircraft or system or a commercial drone delivery system in an area that is not zoned for residential use; or 3) limit the authority to apply and enforce generally applicable zoning and public safety regulations to the physical location of facilities that are used for taking off, docking or landing an unmanned aircraft within two and one-half miles of an airport, if other requirements are met.

~~traffic schools; instructors; fingerprint clearance~~ (NOW: fingerprint clearance cards; temporary authorization) (H.B. 2916) – Chapter 119

SEE THE APPROPRIATIONS, TRANSPORTATION & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE.

mandatory rounding method; cash transactions (H.B. 2938/S.B. 1108) – Chapter 5 E

An emergency measure effective March 12, 2026, that requires a seller to apply Swedish rounding to a total cash transaction amount that rounds the total to the nearest five-cent increment, if one-cent coins are not available or are not used by the seller. Requires a seller that is subject to Swedish rounding to post a notice that is visible to customers at the point of sale stating: *cash transactions are rounded to the nearest five-cent increment pursuant to state law*. A seller must calculate and remit all taxes and fees that are imposed by a state or municipal taxing authority based on the sales price before the cash transaction was rounded.

Requires the Weights and Measures Division of the Arizona Department of Agriculture (Division) to enforce the Swedish rounding requirement. The Division may issue warnings and orders and impose civil penalties in addition to other enforcement measures.

municipalities; counties; development fees (H.B. 2946) – Chapter 121

Prohibits a municipality, when determining the applicable development fee, from distinguishing between single-family residential developments based on the size of the residential dwelling unit or number of bedrooms unless the municipality adopted such development fees before September 12, 2026. A municipality's development fee ordinance must provide that a new fee or increased portion of a modified fee not be assessed against a residential, commercial, industrial or multifamily development for 24 months after the effective date of the development fee ordinance that imposes a new or increased development fee if no subsequent changes are made to the approved site plan or final subdivision plat that increases the number of service units.

Allows a municipality to assess development fees on the development of an accessory dwelling unit for water and wastewater and for all other necessary public services and prescribes caps for the development fees

Prohibits a municipality engaging in a domestic water or wastewater business from increasing any water or wastewater rate, fee or service charge without adopting statutorily required growth-related fees for the portion of a water or wastewater fee that is adopted or increased after December 31, 2026, to fund capital improvements to water or wastewater facilities that serve new growth.

pharmacy board; civil penalties. (H.B. 2953) – Chapter 207

Caps the non-disciplinary civil penalty that the Arizona State Board of Pharmacy (Board) may issue at $25,000 in any six-month period and allows the Board to consider activities of the licensee, registrant or permittee over the previous 48 months when determining the penalty amount. Caps the aggregate civil penalties that the Board may impose as a disciplinary action on a permittee that is not directly performing patient care at $25,000 in any six-month period.

alternative nicotine products; regulation. (H.B. 4001) – Chapter 124

Alternative Nicotine Product (ANP) Licensure (Effective January 1, 2028) – Requires a person to possess a license issued by the Department of Liquor Licenses and Control (DLLC) to manufacture or distribute ANPs in Arizona. Outlines manufacturer and distributor application and licensure requirements. It is unlawful for an ANP retailer to purchase ANPs from unlicensed distributors or manufacturers. Outlines criminal penalties and fines for a person who manufactures or distributes ANPs in Arizona without a license. An ANP manufacturer or distributor license is valid for one year and is not transferrable.

Sale of ANPs and Identification – Requires an ANP retailer or any other person who questions whether a person purchasing an ANP is under 21 years old to verify the person's age by examination of acceptable identification. Active military personnel who are at least 18 years old may possess, accept, receive or use an ANP under outlined conditions. Applies the penalties for selling tobacco products to an underage person to the sale of ANPs to an underage person. Outlines criminal penalties and fines for an enterprise that sells an ANP to a person under 21 years old, including for subsequent violations. The Director of the DLLC must maintain effective liaison with the Department of Public Safety and all local law enforcement agencies to enforce laws against the sale or possession of ANPs by persons under 21 years old.

ANP Marketing – Prohibits a person from marketing, advertising, selling or causing to be sold ANPs in a container that: 1) depicts a cartoon-like fictional character that mimics a character primarily aimed at entertaining; 2) imitates or mimics a trademark or trade dress of a product that is or has been primarily marketed to minors; 3) includes a symbol that is primarily used to market products to minors; 4) includes an image or the name of a celebrity; or 5) is in a product shape or design that is meant to disguise the appearance of the ANP. Any ANPs sold or offered for sale in violation of the marketing restrictions is deemed to be contraband and may be seized in a criminal proceeding. A violation of the marketing restrictions is a class 3 misdemeanor.

Miscellaneous – Authorizes the DLLC to inspect the premises of a manufacturer or distributor licensee, request transactional documentation from the licensee, remove contaminated ANPs from the marketplace and issue and enforce cease and desist orders related to the improper sale, distribution or manufacture of ANPs.

genetic counselors; board; licensure (H.B. 4010) – Chapter 210

Establishes the Board of Genetic Counselors (Board) consisting of nine Governor-appointed members who serve four-year terms. Outlines Board membership, powers and duties, including the duty to license and regulate genetic counselors. Designates the Executive Director of the Arizona Board of Osteopathic Examiners in Medicine and Surgery as the Board Director. Establishes the Board Fund and requires the Board to prescribe and collect genetic counselor application and licensure fees and deposit 10 percent of all monies in the state General Fund and the remaining 90 percent in the Board Fund. All Board Fund monies are subject to legislative appropriation and state non-reversion requirements for self-supporting regulatory agencies. Terminates the Board on July 1, 2034.

On completion of rulemaking and by October 1, 2026, a person who wishes to practice genetic counseling in Arizona must be licensed by the Board. A person who was practicing genetic counseling on September 12, 2026, must apply to the Board for licensure by January 1, 2028. A person may not act as a genetic counselor without being licensed by the Board, with certain exceptions. Outlines genetic counselor license application, reciprocity and renewal requirements. Directs the Board, when the Board receives a complaint or any information that indicates that a person is or may be violating the genetic counselor regulatory statutes, to take prescribed investigative and disciplinary actions.

Grants a genetic counselor the right not to participate in or provide any genetic counseling that violates the genetic counselor's conscience. A person may not take adverse action against a genetic counselor for declining to participate in a genetic counseling service on the basis of conscience. The licensing of a genetic counselor may not be contingent on the genetic counselor's participation in counseling or referral in counseling that violates the genetic counselor's conscience. If a genetic counselor declines to participate in or provide requested genetic counseling, the genetic counselor must inform the patient in a timely manner that the genetic counselor is unable to provide the requested genetic counseling and offer to direct the patient to the online directory of licensed genetic counselors maintained by the Board. A genetic counselor is immune from civil, criminal and administrative liability for exercising the right of conscience with respect to genetic counseling.

Applies the general requirements prescribed for health profession regulatory boards to the Board by including genetic counselors in the definition of *health professional*. Authorizes genetic counselors to deliver health care services through telehealth by including genetic counselors in the definition of *health care providers*.

congressional term limits; convention (H.C.R. 2043/S.C.R. 1011)

Applies to the U.S. Congress to call an Article V convention for the purpose of proposing an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to set a limit on the number of terms a person may serve in the U.S. Congress. Specifies that this application is a continuing application until at least two-thirds of the state legislatures have made applications on the same subject.

LEGISLATION VETOED

concealed weapons; notice; repeal (S.B. 1012) – VETOED

SEE THE JUDICIARY & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.

public employees; merit; hiring practices (S.B. 1013) – VETOED

Prohibits 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; or 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 prohibition. A prevailing party is entitled to costs and reasonable attorney fees. The prohibition does not: 1) contradict any state or federal antidiscrimination laws or employment laws that prohibit discriminatory practices; or 2) apply to or limit voluntary veterans' preference employment policies or any other veterans' preference policies.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1013 attempts to solve a problem that does not exist, as Arizona does not mandate any composition of its workforce and already has a merit-focused hiring system to recruit the best possible talent into the ranks of public service.

document retention; proposals; donations (S.B. 1186) – VETOED

Requires a company that currently has a state contract with any state agency, a company that responds to a request for proposals (RFP) in accordance with the Arizona Procurement Code or a company 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 12, 2026, may be resolicited.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1186 applies only to one elected official and transparency and accountability is necessary for all elected officials, campaigns and affiliated political committees.

state agencies; guidance; website (S.B. 1586) – VETOED

Requires each state agency to: 1) create a dedicated page on its website and post all guidance that the state agency creates, develops or adopts; and 2) post on its website all guidance received from a federal agency that seeks to influence the state agency's administration of federal monies or implementation of state laws, rules and policies or that provides recommendations on

compliance with federal laws or regulations, with certain exceptions for confidential information. Each state agency that posts the guidance information must include a summary of the guidance contents and its potential impact on the state agency's operations or policies. By December 31, each state agency must annually report to the Legislature regarding the state agency's compliance with the guidance posting requirements and any findings.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1586 is overly broad.

municipalities; counties; occupation; licensure; prohibition (S.B. 1670) – VETOED

Declares the licensure of contractors as a matter of statewide concern and preempts further regulation by a municipality or county. A municipality or county may not require a person to obtain a journeyman license if the person is subject to licensure as a contractor.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1670 limits local control when it comes to construction standards and safety and was written without engaging relevant stakeholders.

exactions; individualized determinations; appeal (S.B. 1787) – VETOED

Prohibits a municipality or county from imposing an exaction on an applicant for any proposed project without a written notice. On receipt of the written notice, an applicant may request an individualized determination that contains prescribed information and demonstrates the basis for the exaction being imposed on the proposed project. The municipality or county must pay for the individualized determination and provide it within 60 days after receiving the request. An applicant may elect to proceed under protest and satisfy a required exaction while the exaction is being appealed.

Allows an applicant: 1) to appeal directly to the Attorney General (AG) if the applicant objects to the individualized determination; and 2) bring an action in an appropriate court to challenge the validity of the individualized determination or exaction. The AG must treat the appeal as a request made in accordance with statutory requirements for investigating a county, city or town for an alleged violation of state law or the Arizona Constitution. In an appeal with the AG or in a court action, the municipality or county has the burden of proof to demonstrate that the exaction is roughly proportional to the adverse impact of the proposed project. If an applicant is successful in an appeal, the AG must deem the exaction excessive, waive the exaction and direct the municipality or county to compensate the applicant for any expended costs. The court must award compensatory damages and attorney fees to a prevailing applicant that brings a court action.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that S.B. 1787 fails to improve zoning processes or accelerate the development of new housing and creates redundancy and confusion.

digital goods; seller's requirements; enforcement (H.B. 2010) – VETOED

Specifies that it is unlawful for a seller of a digital good to offer for sale or advertise a digital good to a purchaser using the terms *buy* or *purchase*, unless at the time of the transaction the seller: 1) makes available to the purchaser prescribed disclosures related to access and

restrictions of the digital good; and 2) receives an affirmative acknowledgement from the purchaser of receipt of the license to access the digital good as disclosed. Outlines exemptions to the digital goods advertising requirements.

Requires a seller, after a transaction is completed, to make reasonable efforts to notify the purchaser and offer a prorated refund only for digital goods that were purchased for $20 or more if the terms of the license change in a way that permanently and materially deprives the purchaser's access. A refund is not available five years after the date of purchase.

A violation of the digital goods advertising requirements is an unlawful practice under Arizona's Consumer Fraud Act and the Attorney General may investigate and take appropriate action.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2010 has ambiguous refund provisions that are inconsistent with other states and welcomes legislation that provides notification standards and refund provisions that are implementable and clear.

medical interventions; prohibition (H.B. 2248) – VETOED

SEE THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.

health boards; licensure decisions; investigation (H.B. 2660) – VETOED

Requires a health professional, if the health care profession regulatory board (health board) makes a licensing decision that is detrimental to the health professional's continued practice and the health professional has been charged with a crime, to stop practicing immediately until the health professional is acquitted or convicted.

If the health board makes a licensing decision that is detrimental to a health professional's continued practice and the health professional has not been charged with a crime, the health board's action against the license must be automatically stayed pending the final disposition of any appeal.

Specifies that committing unprofessional conduct of a character that is likely to deceive or defund a patient or the public or that poses a direct threat to the life, health or safety of a patient is grounds for disciplinary action of a chiropractic professional.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2660 is unfunded and would cost taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars and prevent regulators from taking steps to protect the public from potentially dangerous conduct.

~~competitive sealed bidding; questions; answers~~ (NOW: municipalities; referendum petitions; withdrawal) (H.B. 2873) – VETOED

Authorizes a person or organization that files a referendum petition with a city or town clerk to withdraw the petition by filing a written notice of withdrawal with the city or town clerk at any time before the measure has qualified for the ballot. The authority to file a notice of

withdrawal applies retroactively to all written notices of withdrawals that are filed with a city or town clerk beginning January 1, 2026. Votes for any city or town referendum for which a written notice of withdrawal has been filed beginning January 1, 2026, may not be tallied or canvassed.

The Governor indicates in her veto message that H.B. 2873 would introduce uncertainty and confusion into ongoing litigation on the subject matter.

Memorials & Resolutions



MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS

L.F. Quinn memorial highway (S.C.M. 1002)

Urges the Arizona State Board on Geographic and Historic Names to rename the portion of State Route 77 between mileposts 170.93 and 135 as the *L.F. Quinn Memorial Highway*.

clean air act; EPA powers (S.C.M. 1004)

Urges the U.S. Congress to clearly define the powers and duties of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and end the EPA's regulation overreach on the economy.

PFC Michael Noline memorial highway (S.C.M. 1006)

Urges the Arizona State Board on Geographic and Historic Names to rename the portion of U.S. Route 70 between the State Route 77 and U.S. Route 70 milepost 300 in Bylas, Arizona as the *PFC Michael A. Noline Memorial Highway*.

San Carlos irrigation project; divestiture (S.C.M. 1007)

Urges the U.S. Congress to divest the United States and the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs of the San Carlos Irrigation Project (SCIP) Electric System and provide funding for a system study and needed improvements that will provide reliable, affordable and safe power to SCIP customers.

~~educator salary increases; school reporting~~ (NOW: instructional expenses; operational spending; enforcement) (S.C.R. 1032/H.C.R. 2007)

SEE THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Mark Brnovich; death resolution (S.C.R. 1054)

Expresses sincere regret at the passing of the Honorable Mark Brnovich and extends deepest sympathies to his family and many friends.

Salvatore Carpitano; death resolution (S.R. 1002)

Expresses sincere regret at the passing of Lieutenant Colonel Salvatore Carpitano and extends deepest condolences to his family, fellow service members and the international defense community.

attorney general; public statements; disapproval (S.R. 1036)

Expresses the Senate's disapproval concerning the Attorney General's (AG's) statements on the use of force against law enforcement officers and affirms that Arizona law favors submission to lawful authority and dispute resolution through judicial processes and that the lawful

use of force against law enforcement officers is allowed only in exceptional circumstances that are defined by statute and case law.

Urges the AG to: 1) retract the statements concerning the use of force against federal, state and local law enforcement officers; 2) issue a public statement expressing support for all law enforcement officers; 3) exercise greater care, precision and restraint when publicly addressing matters of criminal law, self-defense and interactions with law enforcement officers; and 4) issue corrective guidance that reflects Arizona law and minimizes the risk of public misunderstanding or harm. Declares the Senate's call on the AG to resign.

Muslim Brotherhood; designation; terrorist organization (H.C.M. 2001)

SEE THE FEDERALISM & FAMILY LAW COMMITTEE.

CAIR; terrorist organization; urging designation (H.C.M. 2002)

SEE THE FEDERALISM & FAMILY LAW COMMITTEE.

property ownership; communist country; restrictions (H.C.M. 2005)

SEE THE FEDERALISM & FAMILY LAW COMMITTEE.

endangered species act; urging reform (H.C.M. 2006)

SEE THE FEDERALISM & FAMILY LAW COMMITTEE.

state route 69; urge renaming (H.C.M. 2007)

SEE THE APPROPRIATIONS, TRANSPORTATION & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE.

subsurface minerals; access; federal policy (H.C.M. 2009)

SEE THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

Mexican wolf; delist; urging support (H.C.M. 2011)

SEE THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

interscholastic; intramural athletics; biological sex (H.C.R. 2003)

SEE THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

~~technical correction; universities; admissions~~ (NOW: public schools; activity; nutrition; support) (H.C.R. 2015)

SEE THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

for-sale housing; development; groundwater replenishment (H.C.R. 2020)

SEE THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

~~minimum wage; exception; homeless~~ (NOW: school districts; labor organizations; resources) (H.C.R. 2040)

SEE THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

congressional term limits; convention (H.C.R. 2043/S.C.R. 1011)

SEE THE REGULATORY AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE.

preferential treatment; discrimination; prohibited acts (H.C.R. 2044)

SEE THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.

Raúl Grijalva death resolution (H.C.R. 2045)

Expresses profound sorrow at the passing of the Honorable Raúl M. Grijalva and honors his extraordinary life and service to Arizona and the nation. Extends sympathies to his family, friends and all those whose lives he touched.

legitimacy; Judea and Samaria; recognition (H.C.R. 2047)

SEE THE FEDERALISM & FAMILY LAW COMMITTEE.

~~elected officials; salary; prohibition~~ (NOW: military families; scholarship accounts) (H.C.R. 2048)

SEE THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Brad Brauer; death resolution (H.C.R. 2053)

Expresses sincere regret at the passing of Brad Brauer and extends deepest sympathies to his family members.

Victor E. Hardy; death resolution (H.C.R. 2055)

Expresses sincere regret at the passing of the Reverend Victor Elsberry Hardy and extends deepest sympathies to his family members.

supporting geothermal energy (H.C.R. 2057)

Expresses the Legislature's support for developing a geothermal permitting roadmap, aligning existing agency rules related to geothermal development and innovative next-generation energy resource development.

county sheriffs; expressing support (H.C.R. 2059)

SEE THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.

Honorable George Cunningham; death resolution (H.C.R. 2060)

Expresses sincere regret at the passing of the Honorable George Cunningham and extends deepest condolences to his family members.

Barbara Leff; death resolution (H.C.R. 2064)

Expresses sincere regret at the passing of Barbara Leff and extends deepest sympathies to her family and many friends.

Louis Gasper; death resolution (H.C.R. 2066)

Expresses sincere regret at the passing of Louis Gasper and extends deepest sympathies to his family and friends.

withdrawal; United Nations; urging Congress (H.M. 2001)

Urges the U.S. President and Congress to withdraw from the United Nations to better serve the country's interests.

health workforce well-being day (H.R. 2001)

Proclaims March 18, 2026, as *Health Workforce Well-Being Day* and urges all Arizona officials and health organizations to commit to the well-being of all Arizona health professionals.

recognizing Judea and Samaria (H.R. 2002)

Declares that the Legislature recognizes the historical, biblical and legal legitimacy of the regions of Judea and Samaria and formally rejects the term *West Bank* as a modern political construct. Supports the use of the terms *Judea* and *Samaria* in all official state communications, documents and references regarding those regions.

Route 66 centennial (H.R. 2003)

Recognizes the 100th anniversary of U.S. Route 66 and encourages Arizonans and visitors from across the country and globe to participate in the centennial celebrations.

disapproval; attorney general; public statements (H.R. 2004)

Expresses the House of Representatives' disapproval concerning the Attorney General's (AG's) statements on the use of force against law enforcement officers and affirms that Arizona law favors submission to lawful authority and dispute resolution through judicial processes and that the lawful use of force against law enforcement officers is allowed only in exceptional circumstances that are defined by statute and case law.

Urges the AG to: 1) retract the statements concerning the use of force against federal, state and local law enforcement officers; 2) issue a statement expressing support for all law enforcement officers; 3) exercise greater care, precision and restraint when publicly addressing matters of criminal law, self-defense and interactions with law enforcement officers; and 4) issue corrective guidance that reflects Arizona law and minimizes the risk of public misunderstanding or harm. Declares the House of Representatives' call on the AG to resign and a formal censure of the AG.

Yvonne Fedderson; death resolution (H.R. 2006)

Expresses sincere regret at the passing of Yvonne Glee Lime Fedderson and honors the immeasurable impact of her life. Extends deepest sympathies to her family, loved ones and countless admirers.

death resolution; Sheila Mattox (H.R. 2007)

Expresses sincere regret at the passing of Sheila "Ginger" Mattox and extends deepest sympathies to her family and friends.

Daniel Kayde Blackman; death resolution (H.R. 2008)

Honors the life, service, memory and devotion to faith of Daniel Kayde Blackman and extends deepest sympathies and condolences to his parents, siblings and all who loved him.

Bill Index



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V/O – Veto Override
W/S – Without Signature
LIVS – Line Item Veto Signed
RFE – Requirements for Enactment
RFEIR – Requirements for Enactment; Initiative or Referendum

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Keyword Index



KEYWORD INDEX

E – Emergency
W/O – Without Emergency
V/O – Veto Override
W/S – Without Signature
LIVS – Line Item Veto Signed
RFE – Requirements for Enactment
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