

# ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

## HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AND SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE

Minutes of the Meeting  
January 11, 2022  
2:00 P.M., HHR 1

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting here:

<https://www.azleg.gov/videoplayer/?clientID=6361162879&eventID=2022011016>

### Members Present:

Senator Paul Boyer, Co-Chair  
Senator Nancy Barto  
Senator Sally Ann Gonzales  
Senator Rick Gray  
Senator Theresa Hatathlie  
Senator Tyler Pace  
Senator T.J. Shope

Representative Michelle Udall, Co-Chair  
Representative Lupe Diaz  
Representative John Fillmore  
Representative Daniel Hernandez, Jr.  
Representative Joel John  
Representative Quang Nguyen  
Representative Jennifer Pawlik  
Representative Beverly Pingerelli  
Representative Judy Schwiebert  
Representative Myron Tsosie

### Members Excused:

Senator Christine Marsh

### Staff:

Laura Benitez, Senate Research Analyst  
Maggie Sullivan, Senate Research Intern  
Chase Houser, House Research Analyst  
Meghan Rasmussen, House Research Intern

Co-Chair Udall called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. and attendance was noted.

### INTRODUCTION

Co-Chair Udall welcomed everyone to the committee.

## **SUNSET REVIEW OF THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS**

### **Presentation by the Office of the Auditor General**

**Jeff Gove, Deputy Director, Performance Audit Division, Office of the Auditor General** distributed and explained a PowerPoint Presentation entitled "Arizona Board of Regents" (Attachment A).

Senator Gray commented on the role that the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) provides and the information presented above.

Mr. Gove answered questions posed by the Committee.

### **Presentation by the Arizona Board of Regents**

**John Arnold, Executive Director, Arizona Board of Regents**, introduced Regent Lyndel Manson in the audience and distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Arizona Board of Regents" (Attachment B). Mr. Arnold answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee discussed property holdings, management of property, the model of the University's accountability and the findings of the Auditor General's report.

**Lyndel Manson, Chair, Arizona Board of Regents**, answered questions posed by Representative Fillmore.

Mr. Arnold returned to the podium to answer questions posed by the Committee.

### **Public Testimony**

No public testimony took place.

### **Discussion and Recommendation**

Co-Chair Udall requested a motion on the recommendation.

**Senator Boyer moved that the House Education Committee of Reference and the Senate Education Committee of Reference recommends that the Arizona Board of Regents be continued for five years. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 13-4-1 (Attachment 1).**

Senators Barto and Hatathlie and Representatives Fillmore, Hernandez and Udall explained their vote.

## **SUNSET REVIEW OF THE SCHOOL FACILITIES BOARD**

**Representative Udall** explained that the School Facilities Board is no longer the School Facilities Board. It is now the School Facilities Oversight Board. The Division of School Facilities is now within Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA). There was a changeover in the middle of this audit because there were some issues and such so the recommendation will be to continue the School Facilities Oversight Board.

### **Presentation by the Office of the Auditor General**

**Jeff Gove, Deputy Director, Performance Audit Division, Office of the Auditor General** distributed and explained a PowerPoint Presentation entitled "Arizona School Facilities Board" (Attachment C). Mr. Gove explained the legislative changes transferring the Board's responsibilities to the ADOA and answered questions posed by the Committee.

### **Presentation by the School Facilities Board**

**Ashley Ruiz, Assistant Director, Division of Business and Finance, Department of Administration**, gave a response to the Auditor General's report and explained the new policy, procedures and overview for the School Facilities Oversight Board. Ms. Ruiz answered questions posed by the Committee.

### **Public Testimony**

No public testimony took place.

### **Discussion and Recommendation**

The Committee discussed school building inspections.

Co-Chair Udall requested a motion on the recommendation.

**Senator Boyer moved that the House Education Committee of Reference and the Senate Education Committee of Reference recommends that the School Facilities Oversight Board be continued for three years. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 16-1-1 (Attachment 2).**

## REVIEW OF THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – EMPOWERMENT SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNTS PROGRAM SPECIAL AUDIT

### Presentation by the Office of the Auditor General

**Miguel Caro Mateus, Senior Performance Auditor, Office of the Auditor General**, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Arizona Department of Education Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Program" (Attachment D). Mr. Mateus answered questions posed by the Committee.

### Presentation by the Arizona Department of Education

**Aaron Wonders, Deputy Director, Legislative Affairs, Arizona Department of Education**, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Empowerment Scholarship Account (ESA), 2019 Special Audit, January 11, 2022" (Attachment E).

Mr. Wonders responded to Representative Udall's questions regarding public records requests.

### Public Testimony

No public testimony took place.

### Discussion

No discussion took place.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey Gardner  
Committee Secretary

(Audio recordings and attachments are on file in the Secretary of the Senate's Office/Resource Center, Room 115. Audio archives are available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)