

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE
JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting
March 28, 2025
1:00 P.M., SHR 109

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting here:
<https://www.azleg.gov/videooplayer/?clientID=6361162879&eventID=2025031134>

Members Present:

Senator Mark Finchem, Chair 2025	Representative Matt Gress, Chair 2026
Senator Flavio Bravo	Representative Michael Carbone
Senator Timothy "Tim" Dunn	Representative Laurin Hendrix
Senator David C. Farnsworth	Representative Stephanie Stahl Hamilton
Senator Brian Fernandez	Representative Betty J. Villegas

Members Excused:

Senator Warren Petersen, Ex-officio	Representative Steve Montenegro, Ex-Officio
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Staff:

Anna Nguyen, Senate Research Analyst
Samuel Rosenberg, Senate Assistant Research Analyst
Joel Hobbins, House Research Analyst

Chairman Finchem called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. and attendance was noted.

The Committee offered opening comments.

ARIZONA STATE SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND, FEBRUARY 2025 24-MONTH FOLLOW-UP OF REPORT 22-109

Presentation by Arizona Auditor General Office (Office)

Lindsey Perry, Auditor General, offered background information on the Joint Legislative Audit Committee.

Dale Chapman, Auditor General's Office, offered background information on the Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and Blind, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind" (Attachment A) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Finchem offered comments.

Mr. Chapman answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Farnsworth offered comments.

Mr. Chapman answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Perry answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

Mr. Chapman answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Jeff Gove, Director, Performance Audit Division, Auditor General's Office, answered questions posed by the Committee.

Mr. Chapman answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Presentation by Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind

Annette Reichman, Superintendent, Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (ASDB), offered comments regarding the report given by the Auditor General's Office.

Shaina Cooper, Assistant Superintendent of Agency Operations & Support Services, ASDB, answered questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Reichman answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

Ms. Reichman answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Representative Stahl Hamilton offered comments.

Ms. Perry answered questions posed by the Committee.

RECESS

At 2:51 p.m., Chairman Finchem recessed the meeting to the sound of the gavel.

RECONVENE

At 3:00 p.m., Chairman Finchem reconvened the meeting.

PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT SYSTEM, FEBRUARY 2025 INITIAL FOLLOW-UP OF REPORT 23-109

Presentation by Office

Patrick Jennett, Performance Audit Division, Deputy Manager, Auditor General's Office, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Public Safety Personnel Retirement System" (Attachment B) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Perry answered questions posed by the Committee.

Presentation by Public Safety Personnel Retirement System

Mike Townsend, Administrator, Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS), offered comments regarding the follow-up report.

Senator Finchem offered comments.

Mr. Townsend answered questions posed by the Committee.

Representative Gress offered comments.

Mr. Townsend offered comments and answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

Mr. Townsend offered additional comments.

Diane McCallister, representing PSPRS, answered questions posed by the Committee.

Mr. Townsend answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered additional comments.

Mr. Townsend offered additional comments.

Senator Finchem offered additional comments.

Harry Papp, Vice-Chair, PSPRS, offered comments and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Representative Gress offered additional comments.

Mr. Papp offered additional comments.

Ms. Perry answered questions posed by the Committee.

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES—LONG-TERM CARE COMPLAINTS AND SELF REPORTS, DECEMBER 2024 48-MONTH FOLLOW-UP OF REPORT 19-112

Presentation by Office

Jeff Gove, Director, Performance Audit Division, Auditor General's Office, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Arizona Department of Health Services" (Attachment C).

The Committee offered comments.

Presentation by Arizona Department of Health Services

Tom Salow, Assistant Director for Public Health Licensing Services, Department of Health Services (DHS), distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "JLAC Update; March 28, 2025" (Attachment D) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Dunn offered comments.

Mr. Salow answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Finchem offered comments.

Mr. Salow answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Perry offered comments.

Mr. Salow answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Finchem offered additional comments.

Ms. Perry answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

STATE OF ARIZONA FISCAL YEAR 2024 FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND FEDERAL COMPLIANCE AUDITS' UPDATE

Presentation by Office

Katherine Edwards Decker, Director, Financial Audit Division, Auditor General's Office, distributed and summarized a PowerPoint presentation entitled "State of Arizona financial statement and federal compliance audits" (Attachment E) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Perry answered questions posed by the Committee.

Presentation by Arizona Department of Administration

Ashley Retsinas, Assistant Director, Division of Business and Finance, Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA), offered comments regarding the update given by the Auditor General's Office and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Presentation by Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System

Jeff Tegen, Assistant Director, Division of Business and Finance, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), offered comments regarding the update given by the Auditor General's Office and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Presentation by Arizona Department of Economic Security

Wes Fletcher, Deputy Director of Operations, Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES), offered comments regarding the update given by the Auditor General's Office and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Mr. Tegen answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Mr. Fletcher answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Zoey Paredes
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>)