

JLBC MEETING

At its April 3, 2012 meeting, the Joint Legislative Budget Committee considered the following issues:

Arizona Department of Administration – Review of Requested Exchange of Fund Transfers for the Department of Environmental Quality – The Committee gave a favorable review of the DEQ request to replace or modify the fund source for 2 of their enacted budget fund transfers.

Department of Environmental Quality – Review of Waste Fee Rules – The Committee gave a favorable review of DEQ's proposed changes to certain waste fees. Overall, the changes would decrease solid waste fee collections while increasing revenues from hazardous waste fees. The new fees are scheduled to become effective in FY 2013.

School Facilities Board – Consider Approval of Index for School Facilities Board (SFB) Construction Costs – The Committee considered 2 different adjustments in the cost-per-square-foot factors used in SFB funding formulas. One option was a 2.1% adjustment based on the average of the change in a national and Phoenix based construction cost index. The other option was based on the SFB Staff request to adjust the factors by 6.6% or 7.26% depending on the grade level. The Committee did not approve either adjustment.

Arizona Commerce Authority – Review of Application Fees for Incentive Programs – The Committee gave a favorable review of the Authority's proposed fee schedule.

Attorney General – Review of Uncollectible Debts – The Committee gave a favorable review of the Attorney General's FY 2009 and FY 2010 listing of uncollectible state debts.

As a result of the favorable review, the State Comptroller is authorized to remove \$19.1 million of uncollectible debts from FY 2009

and \$31.9 million of uncollectible debts from FY 2010 from the state accounting system.

Department of Education – Report on Education Learning and Accountability System – The Committee heard an information only item from Superintendent of Public Instruction, John Huppenthal. The Superintendent gave an overview of current issues regarding Arizona Department of Education (ADE) data systems and indicated that ADE needs \$32.5 million in order to replace its existing systems.