

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Forty-ninth Legislature – Second Regular Session

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT

Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday, January 12, 2010
House Hearing Room 4 -- 2:00 p.m.

Chairman Crump called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. and attendance was noted by the secretary.

Members Present

Mr. Antenori
Mr. Campbell CH
Mr. Driggs

Mr. Gowan
Mr. Nichols
Mrs. Tovar

Mr. Montenegro, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Crump, Chairman

Members Absent

Mr. Chabin

Committee Action

HB2045 – DP (6-0-0-3)
HB2046 – DP (7-0-0-2)
HB2048 – DP (8-0-0-1)

HB2049 – DP (7-0-0-2)
HB2050 – DP (7-0-0-2)
HB2057 – DP (6-0-0-3)

STAFF INTRODUCTION

The Members introduced themselves. Chairman Crump introduced Staff: M. J. Bildner and Eva Quomsieh, Pages; Linda Taylor, Committee Secretary; Kamaila Sanders, Democrat Intern; Liz Navran, Democrat Analyst/Policy Advisor; Stephanie Johnson, Majority Research Intern; Christopher Stapley, Assistant Research Analyst and Michelle Hindman, Majority Research Analyst.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

HB2045 – legislative council; continuation – DO PASS

Vice-Chairman Montenegro moved that HB2045 do pass.

Michelle Hindman, Majority Research Analyst, explained that HB2045 continues Arizona Legislative Council (ALC) until July 1, 2020 (Attachment 1).

Mike Braun, Executive Director, Arizona Legislative Council, appeared in favor of HB2045 and offered to answer questions.

Vice-Chairman Montenegro announced the names of those who signed up in support of HB2045 but did not speak:

Bryan Ginter, representing self

Question was called on the motion that HB2045 do pass. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 6-0-0-3 (Attachment 2).

HB2057 – reviser’s technical corrections; 2010 – DO PASS

Vice-Chairman Montenegro moved that HB2057 do pass.

Stephanie Johnson, Majority Research Intern, explained that HB2057 makes non-substantive technical changes to conflicting statutes (Attachment 3).

Vice-Chairman Montenegro announced the names of those who signed up in support of HB2057 but did not speak:

Jerry Landau, Legislative Liaison, Administrative Office of the Courts, Arizona Supreme Court
Bryan Ginter, representing self

Vice-Chairman Montenegro announced the names of those who signed up as neutral on HB2057 but did not speak:

Mike Braun, Executive Director, Arizona Legislative Council
Holly Hunnicutt, Council Attorney/Editor, Arizona Legislative Council

Question was called on the motion that HB2057 do pass. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 6-0-0-3 (Attachment 4).

HB2046 – geographic; historic names board; continuation – DO PASS

Vice-Chairman Montenegro moved that HB2046 do pass.

Michelle Hindman, Majority Research Analyst, explained that HB2046 continues the Arizona State Board on Geographic and Historic Names (Board) until July 1, 2020 (Attachment 5).

Jim Drake, Assistant Secretary of State, Secretary of State’s Office, advised that the Board is under the purview of the Secretary of State’s Office because of the merger with the Library, Archives and Public Records last year. He attended the sunset hearing and he is very supportive of continuation of the Board.

Vice-Chairman Montenegro announced the names of those who signed up in support of HB2046 but did not speak:

GladysAnn Wells, Director/State Librarian, Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records
Douglas Kupel, Historian, Friends of Arizona Archives
Bryan Ginter, representing self
Jessica Stall, Arizona Library Association

Kristen Boilini, Lobbyist, Arizona Librarians Association

Question was called on the motion that HB2046 do pass. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-2 (Attachment 6).

HB2048 – board of library examiners; continuation – DO PASS

Vice-Chairman Montenegro moved that HB2048 do pass.

Christopher Stapley, Assistant Research Analyst, explained that HB2048 continues the Board of Library Examiners (Board) under the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records until July 1, 2020 (Attachment 7).

Vice-Chairman Montenegro announced the names of those who signed up in support of HB2048 but did not speak:

Jim Drake, Assistant Secretary of State, Secretary of State's Office

GladysAnn Wells, Director/State Librarian, Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records

Douglas Kupel, Historian, Friends of Arizona Archives

Bryan Ginter, representing self

Jessica Stall, Arizona Library Association

Kristen Boilini, Lobbyist, Arizona Librarians Association

Question was called on the motion that HB2048 do pass. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 8-0-0-1 (Attachment 8).

HB2049 – ombudsman-citizens aide; continuation – DO PASS

Vice-Chairman Montenegro moved that HB2049 do pass.

Christopher Stapley, Assistant Research Analyst, explained that HB2049 continues the Office of the Ombudsman-Citizens Aide (Office) until July 1, 2020 (Attachment 9).

Patrick Shannahan, Ombudsman-Citizens' Aide, indicated that Mr. Stapley provided a good explanation of what the agency does and recommended continuation for 10 years.

Chairman Crump stated that he has personally had great experience with tough questions he receives that are referred to the Ombudsman-Citizens' Aide. Often the problems are worked out and he receives a report on the results of the investigation. He asked the cost of operating the Office.

Mr. Shannahan replied that the Office is appropriated \$524,000. It is a small office with seven people, but one of those positions is vacant due to not having the resources to fill it. Administrative support is provided by Arizona Legislative Council. He acknowledged that the workload increased last year by 1,000 cases. The Office also faces challenges with state agencies because it takes longer to resolve issues due to decreased resources or the agencies cannot do some of the good things they were able to do several years ago. The Office is working hard to muddle through it and doing a decent job.

Vice-Chairman Montenegro announced the names of those who signed up in support of HB2049 but did not speak:

Bryan Ginter, representing self

Question was called on the motion that HB2049 do pass. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-2 (Attachment 10).

HB2050 – ASLAPR; continuation – DO PASS

Vice-Chairman Montenegro moved that HB2050 do pass.

Stephanie Johnson, Majority Research Intern, explained that HB2050 continues the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records (ASLAPR) until July 1, 2020 (Attachment 11).

Jessica Stall, Arizona Library Association, in support of HB2050, testified that the Arizona Library Association represents all libraries in Arizona, which includes the ASLAPR. The ASLAPR provides benefits to every library in the state, such as administering federal dollars in state grants and aid programs, Braille and Talking Library services, training support, research materials and genealogical resources. The Arizona Library Association supports continuation of the ASLAPR.

Jim Drake, Assistant Secretary of State, Secretary of State's Office, spoke in support of HB2050. He stated that libraries are an engine for economic recovery. There is a library in the northwest valley that had 18,000 visits during 2008 and 80,000 visits in 2009. If someone wants to find out who is hiring or fill out a job application, it is necessary to get on-line nowadays, and the first thing to go if someone loses a job is probably the Internet provider, so people are flocking to libraries to facilitate becoming employed again.

He stated that with regard to the merger of the ASLAPR and the Secretary of State's Office, the first component blended was the Information Technology Division, which has worked out famously. The voter registration servers are now housed in a brand new server room designed for that purpose at the Polly Rosenbaum Building, which is much more secure and there are no overheating issues as experienced in the Capitol. Also, staff is being cross-trained so library personnel will be able to assist when the election season begins in a few months. Additionally, Civics Day will be held at the Capitol on Saturday, February 20, 2010, when a copy of the Declaration of Independence will be brought to Arizona, coupled with a voter outreach plan. He hopes the Committee will support a 2020 continuation of the ASLAPR.

Chairman Crump surmised that access to the broadband and high speed Internet is still challenging in some rural areas. Mr. Drake responded that the ASLAPR received a grant for several million dollars in conjunction with the Department of Commerce to provide more computers in rural Arizona.

Vice-Chairman Montenegro announced the names of those who signed up in support of HB2050 but did not speak:

GladysAnn Wells, Director/State Librarian, Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records
Douglas Kupel, Historian, Friends of Arizona Archives
Bryan Ginter, representing self

Kristen Boilini, Lobbyist, Arizona Librarians Association

Question was called on the motion that HB2050 do pass. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 7-0-0-2 (Attachment 12).

Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Linda Taylor, Committee Secretary
January 13, 2010

(Original minutes, attachments and audio on file in the Chief Clerk's Office; video archives available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)