

ARIZONA STATE SENATE

54TH LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

DATE: January 27, 2020 **TIME:** 2:00 P.M. **ROOM:** SHR 1

CHAIRMAN: Senator Heather Carter **VICE-CHAIRMAN:** Senator J.D. Mesnard

ANALYST: Jeffrey Ong

ATTENDANCE

BILLS

<u>Committee Members</u>	<u>Pr</u>	<u>Ab</u>	<u>Ex</u>	<u>Bill Number</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
Senator Boyer	X			SB 1160	DP
Senator Brophy McGee	X				
Senator Gonzales	X				
Senator Navarrete	X				
Senator Peshlakai	X				
Senator Mesnard, Vice-Chairman	X				
Senator Carter, Chairman	X				

Chairman Carter called the meeting to order at 2:09 p.m. and attendance was noted.

INTRODUCTION OF STAFF AND MEMBERS

Senator Carter welcomed the Committee members and requested staff to introduce themselves.

- Jeffrey Ong, Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee Analyst
- Julia Paulus, Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee Assistant Analyst
- Myriam Boustila, Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee Intern
- Imee Andrew, Committee Secretary
- Dawn Wallace, Majority Staff, Policy Advisor
- Hanna Day, Majority Staff Intern
- Selianna Chang, Democratic Staff, Policy Advisor
- Rachel Jones, Democratic Staff Intern
- Cory Brumstein, Page
- Marcus Spradlin, Page
- Fiza Oazi, Page

Senator Carter requested members to introduce themselves.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

SB 1160 – firefighters; cancers; presumption; workers' compensation – DO PASS

Julia Paulus, Education Committee Assistant Analyst, explained SB 1160.

Senator Carter, bill sponsor, provided comments regarding SB 1160 and recognized Frank Reed, Dr. Mark Peck and Bryan Jeffries. Senator Carter offered comments.

Bryan Jeffries, representing the Professional Fire Fighters of Arizona, 27-year Fire Captain, Mesa Fire Department, diagnosed with cancer, provided comments, testified in support of SB 1160 and stated the importance of the bill.

Marc Osborn, representing the 7710 Insurance Company, testified as neutral to SB 1160 and stated his concerns with the bill. Mr. Osborn answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee discussed and offered comments on SB 1160.

Senator Carter stated that a constituent John Canter, who was unable to attend, gave his permission to share his testimony and offered comments.

Nick Ponder, Legislative Director, League of Arizona Cities and Towns, provided comments, testified in support of SB 1160 and stated the importance of the bill.

Dr. Vershalee Shukla, Radiation Oncology Specialist, provided comments, testified in support of SB 1160 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Mr. Ponder answered questions posed by the Committee.

Dr. Shukla answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee further discussed and offered comments on SB 1160.

Senator Carter provided further comments regarding SB 1160.

Michael Gardner, representing the Professional Fire Fighters of Arizona, testified in support of SB 1160 and stated the importance of the bill. Mr. Gardner distributed a written testimony from Virginia M. Weaver, MD, MPH, Associate Professor, Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health (Attachment A).

Peter Benzing, Firefighter, Casa Grande Fire Department, diagnosed with prostate cancer and his wife diagnosed with colon cancer, testified in support of SB 1160 and urged the Committee to pass the bill.

Gilbert Aguirre, Firefighter, Goodyear Fire Department, diagnosed with chronic myeloid leukemia cancer, testified in support of SB 1160 and urged the Committee to pass the bill.

Dr. Mark Peck, representing his son Austin Peck who was a Firefighter and diagnosed with sinonasal undifferentiated carcinoma cancer, testified in support of SB 1160 and stated the importance of the bill.

Kevin Thompson, 26-year veteran Fire Captain, Glendale Fire Department, diagnosed with multiple myeloma cancer, testified in support of SB 1160 and urged the Committee to pass the bill.

Senator Carter provided further comments regarding SB 1160.

Matthew Grush, Firefighter, Phoenix Fire Department, provided comments and testified in support of SB 1160.

Judith Beischel, from the American Legion, also a Coast Guard Veteran, testified in support of SB 1160.

Attached is a list noting the individuals who registered their position on SB 1160 (Attachment B).

**Senator Mesnard moved SB 1160 be returned with a DO PASS recommendation.
The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 7-0-0 (Attachment 1).**

Senators Boyer, Brophy McGee, Gonzales, Navarrete, Peshlakai and Carter explained their vote.

Attached are forms noting the individuals who submitted a Speaker slip on the bill (Attachment C).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Imee L. Andrew
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>)

Committee on Higher Education
and Workforce Development
January 27, 2020