

REFERENCE TITLE: public schools; innovation plans

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-fifth Legislature
First Regular Session
2021

HB 2032

Introduced by
Representative Udall

AN ACT

REPEALING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 9, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES;
AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING A NEW
ARTICLE 9; RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Repeal

3 Title 15, chapter 1, article 9, Arizona Revised Statutes, is
4 repealed.

5 Sec. 2. Title 15, chapter 1, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended
6 by adding a new article 9, to read:

7 ARTICLE 9. SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION

8 15-191. Definitions

9 IN THIS ARTICLE, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

10 1. "BOARD" MEANS THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

11 2. "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

12 3. "INNOVATION" MEANS A NEW OR CREATIVE ALTERNATIVE TO EXISTING
13 INSTRUCTIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICES THAT IS INTENDED TO IMPROVE
14 LEARNING OR ENHANCE ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL STUDENTS.

15 4. "SCHOOL OF INNOVATION" MEANS A PUBLIC SCHOOL THAT HAS SUBMITTED
16 AN INNOVATION PLAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-191.01 AND THAT THE BOARD
17 HAS APPROVED AS A SCHOOL OF INNOVATION.

18 15-191.01. Schools of innovation; innovation plans;
19 exemptions; revocation

20 A. TO BECOME A SCHOOL OF INNOVATION, A PUBLIC SCHOOL SHALL SUBMIT
21 AN INNOVATION PLAN TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ON OR
22 BEFORE APRIL 15 OF EACH YEAR UNLESS THE BOARD HAS APPROVED THE SCHOOL'S
23 INNOVATION PLAN FOR AN INITIAL FIVE-YEAR PERIOD.

24 B. THE BOARD SHALL PRESCRIBE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR AN INNOVATION
25 PLAN, WHICH SHALL INCLUDE, AT A MINIMUM, ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

26 1. A STATEMENT OF THE SCHOOL'S MISSION AND WHY DESIGNATION AS A
27 SCHOOL OF INNOVATION WOULD ENHANCE THE SCHOOL'S ABILITY TO ACHIEVE ITS
28 MISSION AND IMPROVE LEARNING OR ENHANCE ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL
29 STUDENTS.

30 2. A DESCRIPTION OF THE INNOVATIVE PRACTICES THE SCHOOL WOULD LIKE
31 TO IMPLEMENT AND A PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION.

32 3. A DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL'S PROGRAMS, POLICIES OR OPERATIONS
33 THAT WOULD NEED TO CHANGE IN ORDER TO SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENT THE
34 INNOVATIVE PRACTICE AND A PLAN FOR HOW THOSE WOULD BE ADDRESSED.

35 4. A DETAILED IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE THAT IS NOT MORE THAN FIVE
36 YEARS AFTER BOARD APPROVAL OF THE INNOVATION PLAN.

37 5. A COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING
38 BOARD OR CHARTER SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY THAT BOTH:

39 (a) SUPPORTS THE INNOVATION PLAN AND THE ANTICIPATED IMPLEMENTATION
40 TIMELINE.

41 (b) DESCRIBES THE RESOURCES AND SUPPORT THE SCHOOL WILL RECEIVE
42 FROM THE GOVERNING BOARD OR GOVERNING BODY IN IMPLEMENTING THE INNOVATION
43 PLAN.

1 6. DOCUMENTATION THAT SHOWS MEANINGFUL PARENTAL, EDUCATOR AND
2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CAPACITY FOR THE CHANGES IDENTIFIED IN THE
3 INNOVATION PLAN.

4 7. A DESCRIPTION OF THE FORMATIVE, BENCHMARK AND SUMMATIVE
5 ASSESSMENTS THAT WILL BE USED TO MONITOR THE PROGRESS AND OUTCOMES OF THE
6 INNOVATION PLAN.

7 8. A DESCRIPTION OF THE GOALS, IDENTIFIED PERFORMANCE INDICATORS,
8 IMPLEMENTATION MILESTONES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE INNOVATION PLAN.

9 9. A DESCRIPTION OF THE LONG-TERM COMMUNITY OUTREACH GOALS AND
10 STAKEHOLDER COMMUNICATION PLANS.

11 10. ANY OTHER MATERIALS THAT THE BOARD REQUIRES.

12 C. IN ITS INNOVATION PLAN, A SCHOOL MAY REQUEST AN EXEMPTION FROM
13 THE INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 15-901,
14 SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 1, SUBDIVISIONS (a) AND (b), OR ANY RULES OR
15 POLICIES THAT MIGHT HINDER THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHOOL'S
16 INNOVATION PLAN AND PROPOSE ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS, EXCEPT THAT A SCHOOL
17 MAY NOT REQUEST A REDUCTION IN THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS
18 PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 15-901 FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR. ANY REQUEST FOR AN
19 EXEMPTION SHALL INCLUDE A RATIONALE OF HOW EACH EXEMPTION WILL SUPPORT
20 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INNOVATION PLAN. A SCHOOL MAY NOT REQUEST
21 EXEMPTIONS FROM ANY RULE OR POLICY RELATING TO PARTICIPATION IN THE
22 STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-741 AND IN ANY STATE
23 OR FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM. THE BOARD SHALL PRESCRIBE A PROCESS FOR
24 A SCHOOL OF INNOVATION TO SUBMIT AMENDMENTS TO AN APPROVED INNOVATION PLAN
25 TO REQUEST AN EXEMPTION AS DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION. A SCHOOL OF
26 INNOVATION IS SUBJECT TO ALL STATUTES, RULES AND POLICIES THAT ARE NOT
27 EXPLICITLY EXEMPTED BY THE BOARD AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION E OF THIS
28 SECTION. ANY EXEMPTION THAT THE BOARD GRANTS PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION
29 APPLIES FOR THE DURATION OF THE INNOVATION PLAN AND INCLUDES ANY
30 SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENT OR REDESIGNATION OF AN IDENTIFIED STATE STATUTE, RULE
31 OR POLICY, UNLESS THE SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENT OR REDESIGNATION SPECIFICALLY
32 APPLIES TO A SCHOOL OF INNOVATION. IF A STATUTE HINDERS THE FULL
33 IMPLEMENTATION OF A SCHOOL'S INNOVATION PLAN AND AN EXEMPTION IS NOT
34 ALLOWED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, THE SCHOOL MAY REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT
35 INCLUDE THE STATUTE IN THE EVALUATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-191.02,
36 SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 5.

37 D. WITHIN SIXTY DAYS AFTER RECEIVING AN INNOVATION PLAN PURSUANT TO
38 SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION, THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
39 SHALL TRANSMIT THE INNOVATION PLAN TO THE BOARD WITH A RECOMMENDATION FOR
40 APPROVAL OR RESUBMISSION.

41 E. THE BOARD SHALL APPROVE OR REJECT AN INNOVATION PLAN WITHIN
42 SIXTY DAYS AFTER THE BOARD RECEIVES THE INNOVATION PLAN FROM THE
43 SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION. IF THE BOARD REJECTS THE INNOVATION
44 PLAN, THE BOARD SHALL EXPLAIN IN WRITING THE REASONS FOR REJECTION AND THE
45 SCHOOL MAY RESUBMIT AN AMENDED PLAN AT ANY TIME. IF THE BOARD APPROVES

1 THE INNOVATION PLAN, THE BOARD SHALL SPECIFY IN WRITING WHETHER THE BOARD
2 ALSO APPROVES ANY EXEMPTION REQUESTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION C OF THIS
3 SECTION.

4 F. IF THE BOARD APPROVES AN INNOVATION PLAN, THE BOARD SHALL
5 APPROVE THE INNOVATION PLAN FOR AN INITIAL FIVE-YEAR PERIOD. THE BOARD
6 MAY EXTEND THE APPROVAL PERIOD FOR UP TO FIVE ADDITIONAL YEARS IF THE
7 SCHOOL COMPLIES WITH RENEWAL PROCEDURES PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD, INCLUDING
8 MEETING ANY PRESCRIBED PERFORMANCE CRITERIA ON EVALUATIONS.

9 G. AT ANY TIME ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OR BASED ON
10 A FINDING OF THE BOARD, THE BOARD MAY REVOKE A SCHOOL'S INNOVATION STATUS
11 IF THE GOALS, PERFORMANCE INDICATORS OR IMPLEMENTATION MILESTONES
12 IDENTIFIED IN THE SCHOOL'S APPROVED INNOVATION PLAN ARE NOT MET.

13 15-191.02. Schools of innovation; evaluation; annual report

14 A. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP A PLAN TO EVALUATE SCHOOLS OF
15 INNOVATION. THE EVALUATION SHALL INCLUDE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

16 1. PERFORMANCE MEASURES OF THE SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION IN THIS STATE,
17 INCLUDING MEASURES OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 18 (a) STUDENT ENGAGEMENT.
- 19 (b) PERFORMANCE ON FORMATIVE, BENCHMARK AND STATE ASSESSMENTS.
- 20 (c) HIGH SCHOOL SUCCESS.
- 21 (d) POSTSECONDARY SUCCESS.

22 2. THE INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES OF THE SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION IN THIS
23 STATE.

24 3. THE COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES OF THE SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION IN
25 THIS STATE RELATING TO PARENTS, TEACHERS AND THE COMMUNITY.

26 4. THE EXEMPTIONS REQUESTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-191.01,
27 SUBSECTION C AND THE EXEMPTIONS GRANTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-191.01,
28 SUBSECTION E.

29 5. THE STATUTES THAT HINDERED SCHOOLS IN FULLY IMPLEMENTING
30 INNOVATION PLANS AND FOR WHICH EXEMPTIONS ARE NOT ALLOWED UNDER SECTION
31 15-191.01 AS REPORTED UNDER SECTION 15-191.01, SUBSECTION C.

32 B. IN DEVELOPING THE EVALUATION PLAN PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OF
33 THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL IDENTIFY BOTH:

- 34 1. THE PERSON THAT EVALUATES THE SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION.
- 35 2. THE DATA THAT SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION MUST SUBMIT TO THE
36 DEPARTMENT.

37 C. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COMPILE THE EVALUATION DATA IN AN ANNUAL
38 REPORT THAT ARTICULATES THE FINDINGS, IMPLEMENTATION MILESTONES AND
39 OUTCOMES AND ANY RECOMMENDED STATUTORY CHANGES AND LISTS ALL EXEMPTIONS
40 REQUESTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-191.01, SUBSECTION C, ALL EXEMPTIONS
41 GRANTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-191.01, SUBSECTION E AND ALL STATUTES THAT
42 HINDERED SCHOOLS IN FULLY IMPLEMENTING INNOVATION PLANS AND FOR WHICH
43 EXEMPTIONS ARE NOT ALLOWED UNDER SECTION 15-191.01 AS REPORTED UNDER
44 SECTION 15-191.01, SUBSECTION C. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT THIS REPORT
45 TO THE GOVERNOR, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF

1 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE BOARD ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1 AND SHALL PROVIDE A
2 COPY OF THIS REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.
3 15-191.03. Student protections
4 A. A SCHOOL MAY NOT PENALIZE A STUDENT WHO PREVIOUSLY ATTENDED A
5 SCHOOL OF INNOVATION AND WHO TRANSFERS TO ANOTHER SCHOOL WITHIN THIS
6 STATE, INCLUDING BY EITHER:
7 1. REQUIRING THE STUDENT TO REPEAT COURSEWORK OR CONTENT IF THE
8 STUDENT HAS ALREADY DEMONSTRATED MASTERY OF THAT COURSEWORK OR CONTENT AT
9 THE SCHOOL OF INNOVATION.
10 2. CHANGING ANY GRADE THAT THE STUDENT RECEIVED AT A SCHOOL OF
11 INNOVATION.
12 B. THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS AND EACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
13 GOVERNING BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH POLICIES THAT ENSURE BOTH FAIR AND
14 EQUITABLE:
15 1. ADMISSION OF GRADUATES OF SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION OR OTHER
16 GRADUATES WITH NONTRADITIONAL DIPLOMAS AND TRANSCRIPTS TO COMMUNITY
17 COLLEGES AND TO UNIVERSITIES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE ARIZONA BOARD
18 OF REGENTS.
19 2. ACCESS TO SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID FOR GRADUATES OF
20 SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION OR OTHER GRADUATES WITH NONTRADITIONAL DIPLOMAS AND
21 TRANSCRIPTS.
22 15-191.04. Rules
23 THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT ANY RULES NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS ARTICLE.