

REFERENCE TITLE: median barriers; study committee

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-sixth Legislature
First Regular Session
2023

SB 1129

Introduced by
Senator Gabaldón

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING THE INTERSTATE BARRIER MEDIAN EXPANSION STUDY COMMITTEE.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Interstate barrier median expansion study
3 committee; duties; report; repeal

4 A. The interstate barrier median expansion study committee is
5 established consisting of the following fifteen members:

6 1. Three members of the senate who are appointed by the president
7 of the senate, not more than two of whom are members of the same political
8 party. The president of the senate shall designate one of these members
9 to serve as cochairperson of the committee. Two of the members shall be
10 the chairperson and the ranking minority member on the senate
11 transportation and technology committee or its successor committee.

12 2. Three members of the house of representatives who are appointed
13 by the speaker of the house of representatives, not more than two of whom
14 are members of the same political party. The speaker of the house of
15 representatives shall designate one of these members to serve as
16 cochairperson of the committee. Two of the members shall be the
17 chairperson and the ranking minority member on the house of
18 representatives transportation committee or its successor committee.

19 3. The director of the department of transportation or the
20 director's designee.

21 4. The director of the department of public safety or the
22 director's designee.

23 5. The director of the Maricopa association of governments or the
24 director's designee.

25 6. The director of the Pima association of governments or the
26 director's designee.

27 7. The director of the central Arizona governments or the
28 director's designee.

29 8. The chairperson of the state transportation board or the
30 chairperson's designee.

31 9. The director of the rural transportation advocacy council or the
32 director's designee.

33 10. Two public members who have been impacted by a fatality on a
34 highway without median barriers and who are appointed by the
35 governor. One member must reside in the northern portion of this state
36 and one member must reside in the southern portion of this state.

37 B. The study committee shall conduct hearings on and examine the
38 following:

39 1. The current landscape, inventory and mapping of median barriers
40 throughout this state.

41 2. The feasibility of installing median barriers and public safety
42 alternatives throughout highways, interstates and state routes in this
43 state.

44 3. A historical accounting of fatalities and crossover accidents
45 for the past ten years in this state.

1 4. Other issues that the study committee deems necessary relating
2 to best practices on:

3 (a) Installation of median barriers.

4 (b) Mitigation of fatalities, crossover accidents and severe
5 injury.

6 (c) Other public safety tools to increase safety on highways,
7 interstates and state routes in this state.

8 (d) Determination of the criteria to prioritize the installation of
9 median barriers.

10 C. The department of transportation shall provide the committee
11 with administrative support. Members of the committee are not eligible to
12 receive reimbursement of expenses pursuant to title 38, chapter 4, article
13 2, Arizona Revised Statutes.

14 D. On or before December 15, 2023, the committee shall submit a
15 report regarding the committee's activities and recommendations for
16 administrative or legislative action to the governor, the president of the
17 senate and the speaker of the house of representatives and provide a copy
18 of this report to the secretary of state and any member of the public who
19 request a copy. The report shall include a proposed priority list of
20 median barriers to be installed in this state.

21 E. This section is repealed from and after September 30, 2024.