

REFERENCE TITLE: Phoenix-Mesa gateway airport; reuse zone

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-sixth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2024

HJR 2001

Introduced by
Representative Grantham

A JOINT RESOLUTION

RENEWING THE DESIGNATION OF PHOENIX-MESA GATEWAY AIRPORT AS A MILITARY
REUSE ZONE.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Whereas, Williams Air Force Base closed on September 30, 1993,
2 pursuant to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990
3 (P.L. 101-510) and the recommendations of the Defense Base Closure and
4 Realignment Commission; and

5 Whereas, Williams Air Force Base was used for operational purposes
6 and training of the active uniformed services of the United States; and

7 Whereas, the closure of Williams Air Force Base resulted in the loss
8 of thousands of jobs and millions of dollars in economic activity, and the
9 State of Arizona and local communities, faced with the challenge of
10 replacing these losses, formed a unique partnership to develop a
11 comprehensive economic reuse plan for Williams Air Force Base; and

12 Whereas, a primary component of this economic reuse initiative was
13 the 1992 enactment of Arizona's Defense Restructuring and Military Reuse
14 Zone Programs, a forward-thinking legislative framework for designating
15 closed military bases in Arizona as military reuse zones, which provide
16 targeted economic incentives for aviation and aerospace businesses,
17 creating new jobs and making capital investments within these zones; and

18 Whereas, the Williams Gateway Airport Authority desired to establish
19 a civil airport on a portion of the lands comprising Williams Air Force
20 Base and applied to the Air Force for a public benefit transfer of such
21 lands with improvements thereon, together with certain related personal
22 property, under 49 United States Code section 47151; and

23 Whereas, the Air Force approved and accepted the Williams Gateway
24 Airport Authority's application; and

25 Whereas, the secretary of the Air Force ultimately transferred to
26 the Williams Gateway Airport Authority title to the premises and property
27 consisting of certain lands with improvements thereon, comprising a
28 portion of Williams Air Force Base, more particularly described in the
29 quitclaim deed executed on April 14, 1998 and recorded in Maricopa County
30 on April 30, 1998; and

31 Whereas, the Williams Gateway Airport was designated a military
32 reuse zone pursuant to Executive Order 96-12 in 1996, and it remained a
33 military reuse zone until July 2006; and

34 Whereas, on October 19, 2006, Executive Order 2006-15 designated
35 Williams Gateway Airport as a military reuse zone, pursuant to section
36 41-1531, Arizona Revised Statutes, for a period of ten years from the date
37 of designation; and

38 Whereas, Williams Gateway Airport became known as Phoenix-Mesa
39 Gateway Airport in 2008; and

40 Whereas, the military reuse zone designation at Phoenix-Mesa Gateway
41 Airport, formerly Williams Gateway Airport, has been an important
42 component of the economic redevelopment strategy that attracted over 52
43 companies and created 6,675 direct jobs since 1996; and

1 Whereas, the renewal of the military reuse zone designation will
2 continue to facilitate state and local economic readjustment efforts by
3 providing opportunities for commercial and industrial development,
4 including major infrastructure improvements that will spur job creation
5 and accelerate redevelopment growth.

6 Therefore

7 Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

8 1. That the Members of the Fifty-sixth Legislature and the Governor
9 of the State of Arizona renew as a military reuse zone the Phoenix-Mesa
10 Gateway Airport, formerly Williams Gateway Airport, premises and property
11 consisting of certain lands with improvements thereon comprising a portion
12 of Williams Air Force Base, more particularly described in the quitclaim
13 deed executed on April 14, 1998 and recorded in Maricopa County on April
14 30, 1998.

15 2. That, pursuant to section 41-1531, subsection B, Arizona Revised
16 Statutes, the termination date for this military reuse zone be set for ten
17 years from October 19, 2026.

18 3. That the Secretary of State transmit copies of this Resolution
19 to the City of Phoenix and the City of Mesa.