

REFERENCE TITLE: Arizona geological survey; analysis; division

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2026

HB 2262

Introduced by
Representative Griffin

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 17-252, 27-101, 27-102 AND 27-112, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING SECTION 27-113, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, AS TRANSFERRED AND RENUMBERED; AMENDING TITLE 27, CHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 27-117; AMENDING SECTION 27-118, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, AS TRANSFERRED AND RENUMBERED; REPEALING SECTIONS 37-171 AND 37-176, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR TRANSFERRING AND RENUMBERING; APPROPRIATING MONIES; RELATING TO THE ARIZONA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Section 17-252, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 17-252. Geospatial data and geographic information system
5 services; wildlife species location information;
6 disclosure or inspection; definitions

7 A. Geospatial data that the department receives, maintains, shares
8 or stores is not subject to disclosure or inspection under title 39,
9 chapter 1, article 2 if the department provides geospatial data to the
10 public through geographic information system services.

11 B. Wildlife species location information is not subject to
12 disclosure or inspection under title 39, chapter 1, article 2 for wildlife
13 species location information on private property or when the department
14 determines that disclosure or inspection of the information may cause harm
15 to any wildlife species.

16 C. For the purposes of this section, "geospatial data" and
17 "geographic information system" have the same ~~meaning as~~ MEANINGS
18 prescribed in section ~~37-171~~ 27-101.

19 Sec. 2. Section 27-101, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
20 read:

21 27-101. Definitions

22 In this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

23 1. "ADMINISTRATOR" MEANS THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE DIVISION.

24 ~~1.~~ 2. "Aggregate" means cinder, crushed rock or stone, decomposed
25 granite, gravel, pumice, pumicite and sand.

26 3. "GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM" MEANS COMPUTER-BASED
27 TECHNOLOGIES FOR STORING, MANIPULATING AND ANALYZING GEOSPATIAL DATA.

28 4. "GEOSPATIAL DATA" MEANS DIGITAL DATA USING GEOGRAPHIC OR
29 PROJECTED MAP COORDINATE VALUES, IDENTIFICATION CODES AND ASSOCIATED
30 DESCRIPTIVE DATA TO LOCATE AND DESCRIBE BOUNDARIES OR FEATURES ON, ABOVE
31 OR BELOW THE SURFACE OF THE EARTH OR CHARACTERISTICS OF THE EARTH'S
32 INHABITANTS OR ITS NATURAL OR HUMAN-CONSTRUCTED FEATURES.

33 ~~2.~~ 5. "Mineral resources":

34 (a) Means all metallic, nonmetallic and energy resources.
35 ~~, including~~

36 (b) INCLUDES aggregate, coal, oil, natural gas, geothermal
37 resources, carbon dioxide and helium.

38 ~~3.~~ 6. "Minerals":

39 (a) Includes metals and metallic and nonmetallic minerals. ~~, except~~

40 (b) DOES NOT INCLUDE oil and gas.

41 7. "PUBLIC AGENCY" MEANS ANY AGENCY OR INSTRUMENTALITY OF THE
42 UNITED STATES, THIS STATE, ANOTHER STATE, A REGIONAL COUNCIL OF
43 GOVERNMENTS IN THIS STATE, AN INDIAN TRIBE, NATION, COMMUNITY OR BAND, ANY
44 POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THIS STATE OR ANOTHER STATE OR ANY FOREIGN
45 COUNTRY.

1 8. "RESOURCE ANALYSIS DIVISION" OR "DIVISION" MEANS THE RESOURCE
2 ANALYSIS DIVISION OF THE ARIZONA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

3 Sec. 3. Section 27-102, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
4 read:

5 27-102. Arizona geological survey; state geologist; powers

6 A. The Arizona geological survey is established within the
7 university of Arizona with offices located in proximity to the university
8 of Arizona in Tucson. The state geologist shall administer the Arizona
9 geological survey and shall serve at the pleasure of the Arizona board of
10 regents. The state geologist shall be a graduate of an accredited
11 institution and either registered as a geologist by the state board of
12 technical registration or a trained geologist as defined in section 32-144
13 and shall be otherwise qualified by education and experience to direct the
14 research and information functions of the Arizona geological survey. **THE
15 STATE GEOLOGIST SHALL COLLABORATE WITH THE STATE LAND DEPARTMENT TO
16 FULFILL THE DUTIES OF THE RESOURCE ANALYSIS DIVISION AND ADVISE THE STATE
17 LAND DEPARTMENT ON REQUEST.**

18 B. The state geologist may:

19 1. Engage the services of faculty members or students **AND EMPLOYEES
20 OF THE DIVISION**, and shall have reasonable access to the data and other
21 resources, of the **STATE LAND DEPARTMENT, THE** university of Arizona ~~or~~ **AND**
22 any other state university in this state to conduct or supervise research,
23 experimentation or other related work of the Arizona geological survey.

24 2. Organize field expeditions to perform work for the Arizona
25 geological survey using university students who are sufficiently advanced
26 in their study of geology to be able to perform satisfactory work.

27 3. Establish and appoint an advisory board consisting of
28 independent practicing geologists, university or college faculty, mining
29 geologists and others who use and rely on data, information and other
30 services of the Arizona geological survey.

31 4. Engage volunteer staff as necessary.

32 C. The expenses of the Arizona geological survey shall be paid by
33 annual appropriation from the state general fund and as otherwise provided
34 by this article.

35 Sec. 4. Section 27-112, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
36 read:

37 27-112. Mapping; inventory; aggregate resources

38 A. The Arizona geological survey shall establish a map and
39 inventory of all known areas that contain aggregate resources and all
40 existing aggregate mining facilities in this state ~~according to~~ **BY** county.

41 B. On request of the state mine inspector, the state geologist
42 shall update the maps and inventories of the aggregate resources of this
43 state and include areas of aggregate resources discovered since the
44 previous publication.

1 C. ON REQUEST OF THE STATE LAND COMMISSIONER, THE STATE GEOLOGIST
2 SHALL UPDATE THE MAPS AND INVENTORIES OF THE AGGREGATE RESOURCES LOCATED
3 ON LANDS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE STATE LAND DEPARTMENT AND INCLUDE
4 AREAS OF AGGREGATE RESOURCES DISCOVERED SINCE THE PREVIOUS PUBLICATION.

5 Sec. 5. Section 27-113, Arizona Revised Statutes, as transferred
6 and renumbered, is amended to read:

7 27-113. Resource analysis division; administrator; employees;
8 compensation; state cartographer

9 A. ~~There~~ THE RESOURCE ANALYSIS DIVISION is established within the
10 ~~state land department the resource analysis division~~ ARIZONA GEOLOGICAL
11 SURVEY.

12 B. The state ~~land commissioner~~ GEOLOGIST shall appoint an
13 administrator of the division.

14 C. The administrator shall be responsible for the administrative
15 functions of the division.

16 D. The administrator may employ, with the approval of the
17 ~~commissioner~~ STATE GEOLOGIST, the employees necessary to carry out the
18 ~~provisions of this chapter~~ THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE DIVISION.

19 E. Compensation for the administrator and other employees of the
20 division shall be established ~~pursuant to~~ BY THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS
21 AND BASED ON THE SALARIES OF EQUIVALENT EMPLOYEES WHO ARE SUBJECT TO THE
22 PROVISIONS OF section 38-611.

23 F. The office of state cartographer is established within the
24 division. The ~~commissioner~~ STATE GEOLOGIST is designated the state
25 cartographer, but the ~~commissioner~~ STATE GEOLOGIST may delegate the
26 responsibilities and functions of the state cartographer under this
27 chapter to an administrative officer of the division.

28 Sec. 6. Title 27, chapter 1, article 1, Arizona Revised Statutes,
29 is amended by adding section 27-117, to read:

30 27-117. Disposition of division monies

31 MONIES RECEIVED BY THE DIVISION PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE, OTHER THAN
32 APPROPRIATIONS, SHALL BE PROMPTLY DEPOSITED, PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 35-146
33 AND 35-147, BY THE ADMINISTRATOR IN THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY FUND ESTABLISHED
34 BY SECTION 27-107.

35 Sec. 7. Section 27-118, Arizona Revised Statutes, as transferred
36 and renumbered, is amended to read:

37 27-118. Arizona geographic information council

38 A. The Arizona geographic information council is established in the
39 ~~department~~ ARIZONA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY consisting of the following members
40 who are appointed by the governor:

41 1. Eighteen members representing state agencies and
42 instrumentalities.

- 1 2. Six members representing federal governmental agencies.
2 3. One member representing a statewide association of county
3 governments.
4 4. One member representing a statewide association of municipal
5 governments.
6 5. Six members representing geographic information systems
7 consortia or local governments.
8 6. One member representing an Arizona Indian tribal nation.
9 7. One member representing a professional geospatial organization.
10 8. One member representing the private sector.
11 B. The governor shall appoint members of the council for staggered
12 three year terms of office, but the governor may remove a member for
13 cause. Vacancies shall be filled for an unexpired term in the same manner
14 as original appointments. The council shall annually elect a chairperson,
15 ~~vice-chairperson~~ VICE CHAIRPERSON and other officers it considers
16 necessary.
17 C. Members of the council are not eligible to receive compensation,
18 but, subject to the availability of monies, are eligible to receive
19 reimbursement of expenses pursuant to title 38, chapter 4, article 2.
20 D. The council shall:
21 1. Advise the ~~Arizona state cartographer's office~~ ARIZONA
22 GEOLOGICAL SURVEY on matters related to geospatial data sharing and
23 appropriate strategies to support a geospatial clearinghouse and statewide
24 geographic information system.
25 2. Facilitate interagency coordination for the purpose of
26 geospatial data sharing and supporting a geospatial clearinghouse, a
27 statewide geographic information system and location-based services that
28 enhance and support federal, state and local government business systems,
29 including emergency preparedness and other disaster mitigation response
30 systems.
31 3. Collect information on user requirements on matters related to
32 geographic information systems, geospatial data, technologies, products,
33 services, standards, programs and activities and prioritize those
34 requirements to the Arizona state cartographer's office, THE ARIZONA
35 GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, the United States geological survey and other producers
36 of geospatial data.
37 4. Serve as a forum to facilitate informational exchange between
38 federal, state, tribal, regional and local governments, the private sector
39 and professional associations.
40 5. Appoint technical committees as necessary.

1 Sec. 8. Repeal; transfer of monies
2 A. The chapter heading of title 37, chapter 1.2, Arizona Revised
3 Statutes, and the article heading of title 37, chapter 1.2, article 1,
4 Arizona Revised Statutes, are repealed.
5 B. Sections 37-171 and 37-176, Arizona Revised Statutes, are
6 repealed.
7 C. All unexpended and unencumbered monies remaining in the resource
8 analysis division revolving fund established by section 37-176, Arizona
9 Revised Statutes, as repealed by subsection B of this section, are
10 transferred to the geological survey fund established by section 27-107,
11 Arizona Revised Statutes, on the effective date of this section.

12 Sec. 9. Transfer and renumber
13 The following sections are transferred and renumbered for placement
14 in title 27, chapter 1, article 1:

<u>Former Sections</u>	<u>New Sections</u>
37-172	27-113
37-173	27-114
37-174	27-115
37-175	27-116
37-177	27-118
37-178	27-119

22 Sec. 10. Succession
23 A. As provided by this act, the resource analysis division of the
24 Arizona geological survey succeeds to the authority, powers, duties and
25 responsibilities of the resource analysis division of the state land
26 department.

27 B. This act does not alter the effect of any actions that were
28 taken or impair the valid obligations of the resource analysis division of
29 the state land department in existence before the effective date of this
30 act.

31 C. Administrative rules and orders that were adopted by the
32 resource analysis division of the state land department continue in effect
33 until superseded by administrative action by the resource analysis
34 division of the Arizona geological survey.

35 D. All administrative matters, contracts and judicial and
36 quasi-judicial actions, whether completed, pending or in process, of the
37 resource analysis division of the state land department on the effective
38 date of this act are transferred to and retain the same status with the
39 resource analysis division of the Arizona geological survey.

40 E. All certificates, licenses, registrations, permits and other
41 indicia of qualification and authority that were issued by the resource
42 analysis division of the state land department retain their validity for
43 the duration of their terms of validity as provided by law.

1 F. All equipment, records, furnishings and other property, all data
2 and investigative findings, all obligations and all appropriated monies
3 that remain unexpended and unencumbered on the effective date of this act
4 of the resource analysis division of the state land department, are
5 transferred to the resource analysis division of the Arizona geological
6 survey.

7 G. All personnel who are under the state personnel system and
8 employed by the resource analysis division of the state land department
9 are transferred to comparable positions and pay classifications in the
10 respective administrative units of the resource analysis division of the
11 state land department on the effective date of this act.