

REFERENCE TITLE: urban growth boundaries; prohibition

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

HB 2492

Introduced by
Representative Taylor

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 9, CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE 8, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 9-500.54; AMENDING TITLE 11, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 4, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 11-269.31; AMENDING TITLE 41, CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 41-710.04; RELATING TO URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARIES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Subject to the requirements of article IV, part 1,
3 section 1, Constitution of Arizona, title 9, chapter 4, article 8, Arizona
4 Revised Statutes, is amended by adding section 9-500.54, to read:

5 9-500.54. Laws, rules, ordinances and contracts;
6 implementation; urban growth boundaries
7 prohibited

8 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, A LAW, RULE, ORDINANCE OR CONTRACT
9 THAT IS ADOPTED OR ENTERED INTO BY A CITY OR TOWN IS NOT EFFECTIVE IF THE
10 IMPLEMENTATION OR ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW, RULE, ORDINANCE OR CONTRACT
11 ESTABLISHES, RECOGNIZES OR MAINTAINS, FORMALLY OR INFORMALLY, ANY URBAN
12 GROWTH BOUNDARIES IN THIS STATE, HOWEVER DENOMINATED, THAT EFFECTIVELY
13 PREVENT NEW URBAN OR SUBURBAN DEVELOPMENT, RESTRAIN TRADE OR COMMERCE OR
14 PREVENT THE EXTENSION OF PUBLIC SERVICES OUTSIDE OF THOSE BOUNDARIES. ANY
15 LAW, RULE, ORDINANCE OR CONTRACT IN VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION IS VOID.

16 Sec. 2. Subject to the requirements of article IV, part 1, section
17 1, Constitution of Arizona, title 11, chapter 2, article 4, Arizona
18 Revised Statutes, is amended by adding section 11-269.31, to read:

19 11-269.31. Laws, rules, ordinances and contracts;
20 implementation; urban growth boundaries
21 prohibited

22 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, A LAW, RULE, ORDINANCE OR CONTRACT
23 THAT IS ADOPTED OR ENTERED INTO BY A COUNTY IS NOT EFFECTIVE IF THE
24 IMPLEMENTATION OR ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW, RULE, ORDINANCE OR CONTRACT
25 ESTABLISHES, RECOGNIZES OR MAINTAINS, FORMALLY OR INFORMALLY, ANY URBAN
26 GROWTH BOUNDARIES IN THIS STATE, HOWEVER DENOMINATED, THAT EFFECTIVELY
27 PREVENT NEW URBAN OR SUBURBAN DEVELOPMENT, RESTRAIN TRADE OR COMMERCE OR
28 PREVENT THE EXTENSION OF PUBLIC SERVICES OUTSIDE OF THOSE BOUNDARIES. ANY
29 LAW, RULE, ORDINANCE OR CONTRACT IN VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION IS VOID.

30 Sec. 3. Subject to the requirements of article IV, part 1,
31 section 1, Constitution of Arizona, title 41, chapter 4, article 1,
32 Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended by adding section 41-710.04, to read:

33 41-710.04. Rules and contracts; implementation; urban growth
34 boundaries prohibited

35 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, A RULE OR CONTRACT THAT IS ADOPTED OR
36 ENTERED INTO BY THIS STATE OR AN AGENCY IN THIS STATE IS NOT EFFECTIVE IF
37 THE IMPLEMENTATION OR ENFORCEMENT OF THE RULE OR CONTRACT ESTABLISHES,
38 RECOGNIZES OR MAINTAINS, FORMALLY OR INFORMALLY, ANY URBAN GROWTH
39 BOUNDARIES IN THIS STATE, HOWEVER DENOMINATED, THAT EFFECTIVELY PREVENT
40 NEW URBAN OR SUBURBAN DEVELOPMENT, RESTRAIN TRADE OR COMMERCE OR PREVENT
41 THE EXTENSION OF PUBLIC SERVICES OUTSIDE OF THOSE BOUNDARIES. ANY RULE OR
42 CONTRACT IN VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION IS VOID.

1 Sec. 4. Legislative findings

2 The legislature finds that:

3 1. In 1998, the voters of Arizona passed Proposition 303, the
4 Growing Smarter Act, adopting section 9-461.13, Arizona Revised Statutes,
5 and specifically prohibiting this state from mandating cities and towns to
6 adopt urban growth boundaries that prevent urban development and the
7 extension of public services outside of those boundaries.

8 2. In 2000, proponents of urban growth boundaries attempted to undo
9 the provisions of Proposition 303 by introducing Proposition 202, the
10 Citizens Growth Management Initiative, which would have repealed section
11 9-461.13, Arizona Revised Statutes, and required cities and towns with
12 populations over two thousand five hundred people to adopt urban growth
13 boundaries that prevent urban development and the extension of public
14 services outside of those boundaries.

15 3. In 2000, the voters of Arizona resoundingly rejected Proposition
16 202, voting two to one against the measure and demonstrating for a second
17 time that Arizona voters overwhelmingly oppose the establishment of urban
18 growth boundaries in this state. As a result, the prohibition on the
19 establishment of urban growth boundaries remains voter-protected to this
20 day.

21 4. Since the establishment of urban growth boundaries in other
22 states, like Oregon, multiple studies have found that urban growth
23 boundaries reduce housing affordability and supply by artificially
24 limiting the availability of affordable land to develop. In cities like
25 Portland, Oregon, lot prices doubled as a result of the establishment of
26 urban growth boundaries around that city. Numerous commentators have
27 urged policymakers in Oregon to repeal its urban growth boundaries, and
28 Portland has had to expand or modify its urban growth boundaries several
29 times to relieve pressure on housing affordability and availability in the
30 area.

31 5. Since 2023, several policies have been adopted or proposed in
32 this state that have had the effect of establishing urban growth
33 boundaries without the consent of the voters. These policies and their
34 effects conflict directly with the voter-protected successes and defeats
35 of the measures that were placed on the ballot in 1998 and 2000.

36 6. To uphold the will of the voters and ensure that Arizona remains
37 an affordable place to live and work, all policies adopted or proposed in
38 this state that seek to establish or that have the effect of establishing
39 urban growth boundaries in this state must be made void as to the portion
40 of such policies that result in such boundaries.

41 Sec. 5. Requirements for enactment: three-fourths vote

42 Pursuant to article IV, part 1, section 1, Constitution of Arizona,
43 sections 9-500.54, 11-269.31 and 41-710.04, Arizona Revised Statutes, as
44 added by this act, are effective only on the affirmative vote of at least
45 three-fourths of the members of each house of the legislature.