

REFERENCE TITLE: appropriation; public schools; trees

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2026

SB 1408

Introduced by
Senators Epstein: Diaz, Gabaldón, Gonzales, Kuby, Miranda, Ortiz;
Representative Sandoval

AN ACT

APPROPRIATING MONIES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Appropriation; department of education; schools;
3 trees; report; exemption

4 A. The sum of \$400,000 is appropriated from the state general fund
5 in fiscal year 2026-2027 to the department of education to distribute to
6 public schools to plant low-biogenic volatile organic compound-emitting
7 trees on school campuses that are appropriate to each school's respective
8 climate.

9 B. Until December 31, 2026, the department shall distribute the
10 monies appropriated pursuant to this section on a first-come, first-served
11 basis only to public schools in this state at which seventy-five percent
12 or more of the students are eligible for free or reduced-price lunches
13 under the national school lunch and child nutrition acts (42 United States
14 Code sections 1751 through 1793). If any monies remain undistributed from
15 and after December 31, 2026, the department shall distribute the remaining
16 monies on a first-come, first-served basis to public schools in this
17 state.

18 C. The department may require each public school that receives
19 monies pursuant to this section to issue a report regarding the school's
20 use of monies received. A public school that receives monies pursuant to
21 this section may partner with nonprofit organizations to plant the trees
22 on the school's campus.

23 D. The appropriation made in subsection A of this section is exempt
24 from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating
25 to lapsing of appropriations.