

REFERENCE TITLE: obesity; prevention; treatment; advisory council

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

SB 1621

Introduced by
Senator Gowan

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING THE OBESITY PREVENTION AND TREATMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Obesity treatment and prevention advisory council;
3 membership; duties; reporting requirements;
4 delayed repeal

5 A. The obesity treatment and prevention advisory council is
6 established consisting of the following members:

7 1. Two members of the senate who are from different political
8 parties and who are appointed by the president of the senate. The
9 president of the senate shall designate one of these members to serve as
10 cochairperson of the advisory council.

11 2. Two members of the house of representatives who are from
12 different political parties and who are appointed by the speaker of the
13 house of representatives. The speaker of the house of representatives
14 shall designate one of these members to serve as cochairperson of the
15 advisory council.

16 3. The director of the Arizona health care cost containment system
17 or the director's designee.

18 4. The director of the department of health services or the
19 director's designee.

20 5. Two members who represent patient advocacy organizations with
21 expertise in treating people living with obesity and who are appointed by
22 the president of the senate.

23 6. Two members who represent medical societies or physician
24 organizations or who are physicians with experience treating people living
25 with obesity and who are appointed by the speaker of the house of
26 representatives.

27 7. One member who is a registered dietitian with expertise in the
28 therapeutic treatment of people living with obesity through diet,
29 exercise, lifestyle changes or behavior modification and who is appointed
30 by the speaker of the house of representatives.

31 B. The advisory council shall meet at the call of the
32 cochairpersons.

33 C. Members of the advisory council are not eligible to receive
34 compensation but are eligible for reimbursement of expenses pursuant to
35 title 38, chapter 4, article 2, Arizona Revised Statutes.

36 D. The advisory council shall:

37 1. Analyze historical data and estimate the potential cost savings
38 of providing medicaid coverage for preventative care.

39 2. Evaluate and recommend public policy and funding strategies.

40 3. Identify health care system gaps.

41 4. Produce a report providing guidance and recommendations to
42 educate the public, the legislature and other government agencies and
43 departments, as appropriate.

- 1 E. On or before December 31, 2027 and December 31, 2028, the
- 2 obesity treatment and prevention advisory council shall submit a report
- 3 regarding the advisory council's activities, findings and recommendations
- 4 for administrative or legislative action to the governor, the president of
- 5 the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives and shall
- 6 provide a copy of this report to the secretary of state.
- 7 F. This section is repealed from and after January 30, 2029.