



2021 Legislative Session

Session Data

- Legislature Adjourned: 4:54 PM 06/30/2021
- Total Days of Session: 171
- Bills Posted: 1774
- Bills Passed: 474
- Bills Vetoed: 28
- Bills Signed: 446

Good bills

SB 1645 publication of notice (Chapter 275)

Allows cities and towns to publish required public notices in a newspaper printed within the city or town or a newspaper printed and published within its county that has a greater circulation to residents of the city or town.

SB 1299 incorporation; urbanized areas (Chapter 41)

Changes the process for a community seeking incorporation. Requires that a map of the proposed incorporated area and the petition be filed with 24 hours of each other. The petition must also be published in a newspaper of general circulation for two consecutive weeks before signatures can be obtained for the petition of incorporation.

Good bills

HB 2400 municipal ordinances; posting (Chapter 162)

Changes the requirement for municipal ordinances that impose a penalty, fine, forfeiture, or other punishment to be posted at city/town hall or in one public place (rather than three) within the municipality or on the municipality's website. Allows exhibits to the ordinance to be excluded from the postings if the city or town lists where the exhibits are available for public use and inspection.

Eye of the beholder bills

SB 1432 political signs; removal date (Chapter 284)

Increases the period that makes covering or removing a political sign a level 2 misdemeanor to 15 days after a general election or 15 days after a primary election for a candidate that is not continuing to the general.

Eye of the beholder bills

HB 2906 governance; audits; training (Chapter 427)

The bill contains two separate subjects. First, it requires the CPA who completes the statutorily required financial audit of the city or town's records to present its findings to the council on an active agenda. Second, it requires the council to demonstrate they comply with a new law that preempts cities and towns from using public monies for and requiring an employee to engage in orientation, training, or therapy that presents any form of blame or judgment based on race, ethnicity or sex.

SB 1448 agricultural operations; nuisance; costs; damages (Chapter 218)

Prohibits a city or town from declaring an agricultural operation a nuisance if the operations meet legal requirements and best practices. In the case of a nuisance action against an agricultural operation, the court cannot award punitive damages unless the operation is criminally convicted or subject to civil enforcement by a state or federal health agency related to the nuisance.

Budget bills

SB 1827 revenue; budget reconciliation; 2021-2022 (Chapter 411)

Among other provisions, the bill establishes the Municipal Firefighter Cancer Reimbursement Fund to reimburse cities and towns for compensation of (1) disability claims, (2) death benefits, and (3) medical, surgical, and hospital benefits. After July 1, 2021, the Industrial Commission will assess a fee on cities and towns based on population, not to exceed \$15M in the aggregate, to be deposited into the fund. It also repeals the annual assessment on cities and towns to fund the Department of Revenue.

Budget bills

SB 1828 omnibus; taxation (Chapter 412)

The bill changes the Urban Revenue Sharing (URS) sharing percentage from 15% to 18% effective in FY24. In addition, it changes individual income tax rates, with the stated bracket limits subject to annual inflation adjustment (the maximum 4.5% rate bracket begins at \$250,000, but it is not adjusted for inflation).

Effective January 1, 2022, the new income tax rates are 2.55% up to \$27,272; 2.98% on any portion above that limit, with a max rate of 4.5% applied to income over \$250,000. Not earlier than January 1, 2023, tax rates can take the second step toward the flat tax (2.53% up to \$27,272; 2.75% on any portion above that limit, with a max rate of 4.5% applied to income over \$250,000). The trigger to begin using this set of rates is when total state revenue collections for the immediately preceding fiscal year meet or exceed \$12,782,800,000.

Budget bills

SB 1828 cont'd.:

Not earlier than January 1, 2024, tax rates can take the final step down to the new flat tax rate (2.5% on all income, with a max rate of 4.5% applied to income over \$250,000). The trigger to begin using this rate is when total state revenue collections for the immediately preceding fiscal year meet or exceed \$12,976,300,000.

SB 1820 capital outlay; budget reconciliation; 2021-2022 (Chapter 406)

Contains \$35 million in non-lapsing funds for the Riggs Road/SR347 overpass.

HB 2893 criminal justice; budget reconciliation; 2021-2022 (Chapter 403)

SB1487 expansion: Expands the ability for a legislator to request the attorney general review administrative actions of a city, town, or county, including any adopted written policies, rules, or regulations. The legislator making the request must first notify the city, town, or county of the alleged violation. If the issue is not resolved within 60 days, the legislator may file the complaint with the attorney general's office.

Next year

- General plan amendments-SB1520
- Budget amendments
- Special taxing districts
- Sale of city land

Resources

Arizona State Legislature – ALIS, www.azleg.gov

Legislator Information, Bill Search, Bill Status, Bill Summaries,
Committee Agendas, Watch Live Proceedings, Request to Speak (RTS)

League of Cities and Towns - www.azleague.org

Legislative Issues and Bulletin, Events and Training Schedule,
Resource Library, General Counsel Opinions, Publications

AZ Capitol Times - Legislation Online Arizona - LOLA