

I. Legislative Update

Session Update. This week was dominated by finger-pointing and regret over a highly controversial change to the selection of precinct committee leaders around the state. [Precinct committeemen](#) (a statutory label for anyone holding the office) are political party officials within each legislative district, responsible for various administrative and political duties. A bill [fast-tracked through the legislative process](#) last week removed the elections of those officials, immediately changing state law to temporarily require political party leaders to appoint them instead of voters electing them. A perfect storm of unintended consequences and unusual circumstances [created the situation](#); concerns about the changes were not identified before it became law, because the legislature skipped committee hearings and public discussion on the proposal.

House and Senate Republicans, burdened by angry calls from precinct officials in their districts, quickly introduced bills to repeal that provision and restore elections for precinct committeemen before an important April deadline. Democrats are not in a rush to repeal the new law without replacing it with a more permanent fix to this year's complications with precinct committee elections. Without bipartisan support, the fix to the law will not be enacted before next month's deadline (because the emergency clause requires a 2/3<sup>rd</sup>s vote). Both legislative chambers are expected to vote on the Republicans' proposed repeal of the new law next week, and negotiations with legislative Democrats will likely continue through the weekend.

Committee and Floor Action Highlights. Policy committees approved a variety of controversial proposals this week, often on party-line votes. They advanced bills to direct \$1.1 million to the state's [Border Security Fund](#), penalize doctors who perform irreversible [gender reassignment surgeries](#) to most minors, define [gender in school sports](#), [limit abortions](#) after 15 weeks, and curb investors' ability to take control of [condo complexes](#).

Other bills found broad bipartisan support in committee hearings – including proposals to create a [State Broadband Office](#), set up a commission to plan a [250<sup>th</sup> birthday party](#) for the United States, tell HOAs they can't ban [artificial grass](#), and expand AHCCCS coverage to include [chiropractic care](#) and [diabetes management](#) services.

The House and Senate held lengthy floor sessions throughout the week. During floor votes, senators approved bills to create an [Electric Vehicle Charging Station Pilot Program](#), increase funding for providers who serve individuals with [intellectual and developmental disabilities](#), and set up a task force to prevent [sexual misconduct](#) on college campuses.

In the House, staffers added [a countdown clock](#) to tell legislators how many votes they had to cast before their next break. During some of those votes, House members supported limits on the use of [fireworks at night](#), allowed dentists to [administer Botox](#), and expanded the allowable uses of money from the [Tribal College Dual Enrollment Program Fund](#).

An unusual number of bills failed this week, in large part due to bipartisan opposition to several election-related proposals. Senators voted down proposals to expand the Arizona Attorney General's ability to [investigate elections](#), ban counties from [requiring Sharpies](#) on ballots, change the way counties [organize ballots](#), mandate an [audit of some elections](#), and put [ballot images online](#). Legislators also failed to pass bills that reduced local governments' ability to [lobby legislators](#), changed regulations on [Arizona's energy market](#), and prohibited banks from considering [specific affiliations or values](#) in loan decisions.

Next Week. There are just two weeks for most policy committees to consider bills, and more than 400

bills are still waiting for their final committee hearings. Thus, next week will bring lengthy committee agendas and hearings.

Ballot Measures. Arizona lawmakers are considering what they want to ask voters in the November General Election. Four questions already await the ballot: Last year, legislators passed measures that would ask voters to give legislators additional ways to [amend a voter-protected law](#), expand access to [in-state college tuition](#) rates for Arizona high school students who meet specific immigration standards, and limit the [subject area of citizen initiatives](#). Earlier this year, they approved a referendum that would expand [voter identification requirements](#).

This year, legislators introduced 60 ballot measures for consideration. Most were sidelined by legislative session deadlines, but eight are still advancing. They would ask voters to approve:

- Limits on teaching about race. [HCR 2001](#) would ban public educational institutions from demonstrating preferential treatment or discrimination based on race or ethnicity.
- Supermajority support for voter-approved measures. [HCR 2015](#) would require a ballot measure to pass by at least 60% to become law. (Currently, it just requires a simple majority of votes cast.)
- Reduced property taxes for veterans. Two proposals ([HCR 2027](#) and [SCR 1009](#)) would provide new property tax exemptions for some veterans with disabilities.
- Expanded property tax breaks. Two proposals ([HCR 2017](#) and [SCR 1011](#)) would add new property tax exemptions for some veterans with disabilities but would also increase eligibility for existing tax breaks – like those for agricultural and business properties, individuals with disabilities, and individuals who have lost a spouse.
- Bans on local minimum wage hikes. [HCR 2031](#) would ban local governments from enacting minimum wage laws and other employee benefits that are different from state-level policies.
- Adding an Arizona Lieutenant Governor. [SCR 1024](#) would create the office of Arizona Lieutenant Governor, which would be next-in-line to assume responsibilities of the Governor if they leave office before the term ends. (Currently, the Secretary of State takes the role if the Governor leaves office.)

As these measures move closer to the end of the legislative process, House and Senate Republican leaders will consider both political strategy and policy priorities to determine what should have the chance to go before voters. Ballot questions are a key way to advance issues that are likely to motivate their supporters to go to the polls.

Election Updates. Senator Wendy Rogers (R-Flagstaff) and Senator Kelly Townsend (R-Apache Junction) will take their disagreements [on the campaign trail](#). Arizonans will see [a lot of political ads](#) this year because candidates will be [competing for attention](#). Candidates for Arizona Secretary of State have raised [more money](#) this year. Cyber Ninjas wants the Arizona Supreme Court to [waive penalties](#) for its failure to release public records.

Court Updates. Today was the deadline for a Superior Court Judge to rule on [the question](#) of whether Proposition 208, Arizona's new education funding mechanism, violates the school expenditure limit. Judge Hannah struck Proposition 208 down as unconstitutional because the money from the tax increase cannot be spent without exceeding the aggregate expenditure limit for K-12 schools. As expected, the Governor, Republican legislators and the Arizona Chamber quickly praised the ruling. [Arizona's judges](#) have unusually large workloads. Arizona's Attorney General wants to apply antitrust laws to financial institutions pursuing [sustainability initiatives](#).

News Updates. Arizona [OnTrack Summer Camp](#) started enrolling participants. [Arizona's community workers](#) help mothers and babies. [The First Lady](#) came to town. Arizona drivers are [angry](#). A member of the Navajo Nation is the new nominee for [Director of Indian Health Services](#). Arizonans are spending millions on [sports betting](#). Congress is still discussing state [COVID-19 aid funds](#). Legislators still [block people on Twitter](#). The [2020 U.S. Census](#) had accuracy problems. A long time ago, Arizona opted not to

join [Daylight Savings Time](#).

## II. Legislative Session Timeline

### MARCH

25 Last day for House consideration of Senate bills and Senate consideration of House bills.

### APRIL

15 Last day for conference committees.

19 100th day of session.

23 Saturday of the week of the 100th day of session. This is the date required by rule for sine die adjournment unless leaders extend the deadline. Leadership can extend it no more than 7 days; thereafter any extension requires a majority vote in each house.

30 Session cannot extend beyond this date without majority vote in both houses

## III. Hearings for Bills of Relevance to MWCUA

### Tuesday

SB 1580 (money transmission; money transmitter licensure). House Commerce (Tuesday March 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm, House RM 3).

### Wednesday

HB 2389 (rulemaking review; time frame). Senate Natural Resources, Energy & Water (Wednesday March 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm, Senate RM 109).

HB 2599 (administrative hearings; GRR). Senate Commerce (Wednesday March 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm, Senate RM 1).

HB 2601 (kratom products; definitions). Senate Health & Human Services (Wednesday March 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am, Senate RM 1).

## IV. Recent Action

<a href="#">H2043</a> :	EMPLOYER LIABILITY; COVID-19 VACCINE REQUIREMENT	2/24	retained on House COW calendar.
<a href="#">H2047</a> :	STUDENT LOAN SERVICES; LICENSURE	1/2	referred to House <a href="#">com</a> , <a href="#">ways-means</a> , <a href="#">educ</a> .
<a href="#">H2048</a> :	STUDENT LOAN SERVICERS; LICENSURE	1/2	referred to House <a href="#">mil-pub safety</a> , <a href="#">jud</a> , <a href="#">nat res-energy-water</a> .
<a href="#">H2104</a> :	COMMUNITY PROPERTY AWARD; CONVICTED SPOUSE	3/0	from Senate <a href="#">jud</a> do pass.
<a href="#">H2107</a> :	EMERGENCY POWERS; BUSINESS CLOSURE; REPEAL.	3/8	from

			Senate <a href="#">rules</a> okay.
<a href="#">H2216:</a>	AUTO TITLE LOANS; TITLE; INTEREST	1/1 9	referred to House <a href="#">com</a> , <a href="#">gov-</a> <a href="#">elect</a> .
<a href="#">H2356:</a>	EMPLOYERS; BUSINESSES; COVID-19 VACCINE RECORD	1/2 0	referred to House <a href="#">com</a> .
<a href="#">H2389:</a>	RULEMAKING REVIEW; TIME FRAME	3/9	withdrawn from Senate <a href="#">gov</a> and further referred to Senate <a href="#">nat</a> <a href="#">res-</a> <a href="#">energy-water</a> .
<a href="#">H2472:</a>	BUSINESSES; FIREARMS; UNLAWFUL ACTS	1/2 4	referred to House <a href="#">jud</a> .
<a href="#">H2475:</a>	EMPLOYERS; COVID-19 VACCINE MANDATE; PROHIBITION	1/2 4	referred to House <a href="#">jud</a> .
<a href="#">H2479:</a>	MOTOR VEHICLES; REGISTRATIONS; TITLES; DEALERS	1/2 4	referred to House <a href="#">trans</a> .
<a href="#">H2480:</a>	VEHICLE SERIAL NUMBERS; REMOVAL; RESTORATION	3/8	from Senate <a href="#">trans-</a> <a href="#">tech</a> do pass.
<a href="#">H2599:</a>	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS; GRRC	2/2 4	referred to Senate <a href="#">com</a> .
<a href="#">H2601:</a>	KRATOM PRODUCTS; DEFINITIONS	2/2 1	referred to Senate <a href="#">hel-hu ser</a> .
<a href="#">H2656:</a>	CERTAIN AFFILIATIONS; BANKS; PROHIBITION	3/8	FAILED House on reconsideration <a href="#">29</a> <a href="#">-29</a> .
<a href="#">H2813:</a>	VEHICLE FINANCE TRANSACTION; CLEAR TITLE	2/9	referred to House <a href="#">trans</a> .
<a href="#">H2825:</a>	MOBILE HOMES INSPECTIONS; TITLE TRANSFERS	2/1 7	from House <a href="#">trans</a> do pass.
<a href="#">S1048:</a>	EMERGENCY POWERS; BUSINESS CLOSURE; REPEAL	2/2 8	House <a href="#">mil-pub</a> <a href="#">safety</a> held.
<a href="#">S1052:</a>	MEDICAL PROCEDURES; PROHIBITIONS	1/1 0	referred to Senate <a href="#">hel-hu ser</a> .
<a href="#">S1053:</a>	RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION; VACCINE; VIOLATION; CLASSIFICATION	2/2 3	passed Senate <a href="#">16-</a> <a href="#">12</a> ; ready for House.
<a href="#">S1072:</a>	TECH CORRECTION; BANK DEPOSITS	1/1 0	referred to Senate <a href="#">rules</a> only.
<a href="#">S1092:</a>	PRODUCT LIABILITY; CIVIL ACTION; LIMITATION	2/2 3	referred to House <a href="#">jud</a> .

<a href="#">S1156:</a>	BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY; TAX; FEE; PROHIBITION	1/1 2	referred Senate <a href="#">fin.</a>	to
<a href="#">S1182:</a>	COMMERCE AUTHORITY; REPORTS; CAREER LANDSCAPE	2/2 4	passed Senate <a href="#">28-0</a> ; ready for House.	
<a href="#">S1204:</a>	MORTGAGE BROKERS; BANKERS; QUALIFICATIONS	3/9	referred House <a href="#">com.</a>	to
<a href="#">S1207:</a>	QUALIFIED SPENDTHRIFT TRUSTS	1/1 8	referred Senate <a href="#">jud.</a>	to
<a href="#">S1222:</a>	EXEMPT PROPERTY; TAX CREDIT; PROCEEDS	2/2 3	passed Senate <a href="#">21-7</a> ; ready for House.	
<a href="#">S1236:</a>	CONSUMER LOAN FINANCE CHARGES	2/1	from Senate <a href="#">rules</a> okay.	
<a href="#">S1253:</a>	VEHICLE ACCIDENTS; FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY	2/1 0	passed Senate <a href="#">28-0</a> ; ready for House.	
<a href="#">S1254:</a>	MEDICAL PRODUCT; PROCEDURE; MANDATES; LIABILITY	2/1 4	withdrawn Senate <a href="#">com.</a>	from
<a href="#">S1262:</a>	GOVERNMENT LENDING PROGRAMS; REPORTS	3/9	from House <a href="#">gov-elect</a> do pass.	
<a href="#">S1265:</a>	PROPERTY TAX LIENS; FORECLOSURE; NOTICE	3/1 0	passed House <a href="#">57-0</a> ; ready for governor.	
<a href="#">S1341:</a>	LEGAL TENDER; SPECIE; BITCOIN	1/2 5	referred Senate <a href="#">fin.</a>	to
<a href="#">S1375:</a>	RETIREMENT SAVINGS PROGRAM; STATE TREASURER	3/8	referred House <a href="#">gov-elect, appro.</a>	to
<a href="#">S1383:</a>	DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE; ANNULMENT	3/8	from House <a href="#">rules</a> okay.	
<a href="#">S1394:</a>	DIFI; BUSINESS NAME; TRADE NAME	3/9	from House <a href="#">com</a> do pass.	
<a href="#">S1414:</a>	VACCINE REQUIREMENTS; EMPLOYERS; PROHIBITION	2/7	referred Senate <a href="#">com.</a>	to
<a href="#">S1422:</a>	EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES; CONSUMER REPORTS; LIMITATION	1/2 6	referred Senate <a href="#">com.</a>	to
<a href="#">S1461:</a>	INCOME TAX; SUBTRACTION; FDIC PREMIUMS	3/2	referred House <a href="#">ways-means.</a>	to
<a href="#">S1493:</a>	PUBLIC EMPLOYEES; SALARIES; VIRTUAL CURRENCY	1/2 7	referred Senate <a href="#">fin.</a>	to
<a href="#">S1580:</a>	MONEY TRANSMISSION; MONEY TRANSMITTER LICENSURE	3/8	referred House <a href="#">com.</a>	to

<a href="#">S1582</a> :	HOMESTEAD EXEMPTIONS; AMOUNT	3/2	referred	to
			House <a href="#">ways-means</a> .	
<a href="#">S1614</a> :	FINANCIAL INSTITUTION; DEPOSITORIES	2/1	referred	to
			Senate <a href="#">fin</a> .	
<a href="#">S1685</a> :	MICROBUSINESS LOANS; COMMERCE AUTHORITY	2/2	referred	to
			Senate <a href="#">com</a> .	
<a href="#">SCM1001</a>	DONALD J. TRUMP HIGHWAY	1/1	referred	to
:		1	Senate <a href="#">trans-tech</a> .	
<a href="#">SCR1013</a> :	MEDIUM OF EXCHANGE; CURRENCY; USE	1/1	referred	to
		1	Senate <a href="#">fin</a> .	
<a href="#">SCR1014</a> :	PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION; VIRTUAL CURRENCY	1/1	referred	to
		1	Senate <a href="#">fin</a> .	
<a href="#">SM1001</a> :	FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS; BURDENSOME REPORTING REQUIREMENTS	2/9	passed Senate <a href="#">16-13</a> ;	ready for Secretary of State.