

I. Legislative Update

Session Overview. The legislative session has nearly ground to a halt as lawmakers try to negotiate a state budget that can pass the House and Senate. Legislators spent a total of five hours in [floor sessions](#) this week, with much of that devoted to speeches honoring specific causes or constituents visiting the Capitol. There was some progress on bills as House members advanced proposals to allow schools to use [vans to transport students](#), broaden parents' ability to [review school library books](#) and sue teachers under the state's [parental rights](#) laws, criminalize [hazing](#), and outline a chain of command for [National Guard volunteers](#). Senators approved bills to expand property tax exemptions for [affordable housing units](#), expand the use of money from the [Water Infrastructure Finance Authority](#), and study new options for [retirement savings programs](#).

Legislators failed to pass changes to the oversight of [state agency rulemaking](#), the [self-insurance](#) standards for state agencies, the amount of value a property owner can keep [before paying creditors](#), and regulations on [tobacco products](#).

Next Week. The weeks ahead will bring much of the same slow progress until legislative leaders are ready to move forward with a budget. There are almost 300 bills that are still eligible for votes, though many of those are on hold because they relate to state budget decisions.

Governor Ducey Highlights. Governor Ducey signed 34 new laws this week. He has signed a total of [197 bills](#) this year and has not vetoed any.

New COVID-19 Laws. COVID-19 shaped much of the early part of the 2022 legislative session, as lawmakers repealed virus mitigation measures for Capitol buildings and introduced dozens of bills to direct Arizona's response to the pandemic and future public health emergencies. While most of the proposals related to COVID-19 were sidelined, some continue to advance and several have been signed into law.

- Limits on face mask mandates.

Governor Ducey enacted a law that prohibits governments and schools from requiring anyone under the age of 18 to [wear a face mask](#) unless they have received express parental consent. Another bill the legislature is considering would ban any governmental entity from requiring face masks on [government-owned property](#) (with limited exceptions).

- Bans on COVID-19 vaccine mandates.

Governor Ducey enacted a ban on any government entity mandate for a [COVID-19 vaccine](#) (except for health care institutions owned or operated by a government entity). Lawmakers continue to advance proposals to ban schools from requiring COVID-19 vaccines for [classroom attendance](#), prohibit any governmental entity from requiring a COVID-19 vaccine for someone [under the age of 18](#) without parental consent, and limit [private employers'](#) ability to require a COVID-19 vaccination for an employee who claims a religious exemption.

- Reducing executive authority during emergencies.

Governor Ducey has enacted laws to ensure [religious entities](#) remain open during an emergency and to prohibit [local government officials](#) from requiring business closures during a state of emergency. Another bill awaiting his signature would place strict limits on how long a Governor could issue a [state of emergency](#) without legislative involvement and authority to extend the emergency. The House is considering a proposal to ban the state and its contractors from going door-to-door to [ask about a person's vaccination status](#).

The new laws will go into effect 90 days after the end of the legislative session.

These bills have advanced almost entirely on party lines, with Republicans supporting and Democrats opposing. This partisan divide will shape future discussions on public health policies, as well.

Election Updates. [Steve Gaynor](#) suspended his campaign to be the next Arizona Governor. Through legislative referrals and citizen initiatives, lawmakers and advocacy groups want to ask voters to shape [the future of elections in Arizona](#). Voters know [what issues matter](#) to them.

Court Updates. A Maricopa County Superior Court ruled that officials who participated in events on [January 6](#) can run for re-election, but the issue [is not going away](#). Two Arizona politicians asked a court to ban the use of [vote-counting machines](#). The U.S. Supreme Court opted not to consider a prior court ruling that allows Arizona defense attorneys to challenge a state law that bans [contact with crime victims](#). Arizona political leaders have differing opinions about how a future U.S. Supreme Court ruling could impact [Arizona abortion laws](#). A Maricopa County Superior Court judge held the [former Cyber Ninjas CEO](#) personally liable for providing records on the Senate's ballot recount.

News Updates. Half a million [AHCCCS members](#) must verify their eligibility when the federal COVID-19 emergency declaration ends. The [U.S. Census Bureau](#) delayed its release of demographic data. The state continues its efforts to [hire veterans](#).

II. Legislative Session Timeline

APRIL

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

III. Hearings for Bills of Relevance to MWCUA

There are no hearings scheduled for bills of relevance to MWCUA.

IV. Recent Action

H2043 :	EMPLOYER LIABILITY; COVID-19 VACCINE REQUIREMENT	2/24	retained on House COW calendar.
H2047 :	STUDENT LOAN SERVICES; LICENSURE	1/12	referred to House com , ways-means , educ .
H2048 :	STUDENT LOAN SERVICERS; LICENSURE	1/12	referred to House mil-pub safety , jud , nat res-energy-water .
H2104 :	COMMUNITY PROPERTY AWARD; CONVICTED SPOUSE	3/24	signed by governor. Chap. 53, Laws 2022. message
H2107 :	EMERGENCY POWERS; BUSINESS CLOSURE; REPEAL.	3/30	signed by governor. Chap. 86, Laws 2022. message
H2216 :	AUTO TITLE LOANS; TITLE; INTEREST	1/19	referred to House com , gov-elect .

H2248:	FAILURE TO RETURN VEHICLE; REPEAL	2/7	referred to Senate trans-tech .
H2351:	HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION; INCREASE	4/5	House concurred in Senate amendments and FAILED on final reading 17-40 .
H2356:	EMPLOYERS; BUSINESSES; COVID-19 VACCINE RECORD	1/0	referred to House com .
H2389:	RULEMAKING REVIEW; TIME FRAME	4/4	from Senate rules okay.
H2472:	BUSINESSES; FIREARMS; UNLAWFUL ACTS	1/4	referred to House jud .
H2475:	EMPLOYERS; COVID-19 VACCINE MANDATE; PROHIBITION	1/4	referred to House jud .
H2479:	MOTOR VEHICLES; REGISTRATIONS; TITLES; DEALERS	1/4	referred to House trans .
H2480:	VEHICLE SERIAL NUMBERS; REMOVAL; RESTORATION	3/4	signed by governor. Chap. 58, Laws 2022. message
H2599:	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS; GRRC	4/6	Senate COW approved with amend #4777 and flr amend #4949 . FAILED Senate 11-15 .
H2601:	KRATOM PRODUCTS; DEFINITIONS	3/2	from Senate rules okay.
H2656:	CERTAIN AFFILIATIONS; BANKS; PROHIBITION	3/8	FAILED House on reconsideration 29-29 .
H2813:	VEHICLE FINANCE TRANSACTION; CLEAR TITLE	2/9	referred to House trans .
H2825:	MOBILE HOMES INSPECTIONS; TITLE TRANSFERS	2/7	from House trans do pass.
S1048:	EMERGENCY POWERS; BUSINESS CLOSURE; REPEAL	2/8	House mil-pub safety held.
S1052:	MEDICAL PROCEDURES; PROHIBITIONS	1/0	referred to Senate hel-hu ser .
S1053:	RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION; VACCINE; VIOLATION; CLASSIFICATION	2/3	passed Senate 16-12 ; ready for

			House.
S1072:	TECH CORRECTION; BANK DEPOSITS	1/1 0	referred to Senate rules only.
S1092:	PRODUCT LIABILITY; CIVIL ACTION; LIMITATION	3/2 4	withdrawn from House jud and further referred to House appro .
S1156:	BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY; TAX; FEE; PROHIBITION	1/1 2	referred to Senate fin .
S1182:	COMMERCE AUTHORITY; REPORTS; CAREER LANDSCAPE	3/2 9	from House rules okay.
S1204:	MORTGAGE BROKERS; BANKERS; QUALIFICATIONS	4/2 2	signed by governor. Chap. 172, Laws 2022. message
S1207:	QUALIFIED SPENDTHRIFT TRUSTS	1/1 8	referred to Senate jud .
S1222:	EXEMPT PROPERTY; TAX CREDIT; PROCEEDS	3/2 4	from House appro do pass.
S1236:	CONSUMER LOAN FINANCE CHARGES	2/1	from Senate rules okay.
S1240:	DENTAL BOARD; ACCESS TO RECORDS	4/1 3	signed by governor. Chap. 135, Laws 2022. message
S1253:	VEHICLE ACCIDENTS; FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY	2/1 0	passed Senate 28-0 ; ready for House.
S1254:	MEDICAL PRODUCT; PROCEDURE; MANDATES; LIABILITY	2/1 4	withdrawn from Senate com .
S1262:	GOVERNMENT LENDING PROGRAMS; REPORTS	3/9	from House gov-elect do pass.
S1265:	PROPERTY TAX LIENS; FORECLOSURE; NOTICE	3/1 8	signed by governor. Chap. 17, Laws 2022.
S1341:	LEGAL TENDER; SPECIE; BITCOIN	1/2 5	referred to Senate fin .
S1375:	RETIREMENT SAVINGS PROGRAMS; STUDY COMMITTEE	4/2 6	Senate concurred in House amendments and passed on final reading 24-3 ; ready for

			governor.
S1383:	DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE; ANNULMENT	4/20	Borrelli has replaced Rogers and Payne has replaced Nguyen on the FREE conference committee. Conferees are: Petersen, Quezada, Borrelli, Blackman, M. Hernandez, and Payne.
S1394:	DIFI; BUSINESS NAME; TRADE NAME	3/23	signed by governor. Chap. 45, Laws 2022. message
S1414:	VACCINE REQUIREMENTS; EMPLOYERS; PROHIBITION	2/7	referred to Senate com.
S1422:	EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES; CONSUMER REPORTS; LIMITATION	1/26	referred to Senate com.
S1461:	INCOME TAX; SUBTRACTION; FDIC PREMIUMS	3/2	referred to House ways-means.
S1493:	PUBLIC EMPLOYEES; SALARIES; VIRTUAL CURRENCY	1/27	referred to Senate fin.
S1580:	MONEY TRANSMISSION; MONEY TRANSMITTER LICENSURE	4/27	House add'l COW approved with flr amend #4955 . Passed House 51-7 ; returned to Senate for concurrence in House amendments.
S1582:	HOMESTEAD EXEMPTIONS; AMOUNT	3/2	referred to House ways-means.
S1614:	FINANCIAL INSTITUTION; DEPOSITORIES	2/1	referred to Senate fin.
S1685:	MICROBUSINESS LOANS; COMMERCE AUTHORITY	2/2	referred to Senate com.
SCM1001	DONALD J. TRUMP HIGHWAY	1/1	referred to

:	1	Senate trans-tech .
SCR1013 : MEDIUM OF EXCHANGE; CURRENCY; USE	1/1 1	referred to Senate fin .
SCR1014 : PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION; VIRTUAL CURRENCY	1/1 1	referred to Senate fin .
SM1001 : FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS; BURDENSOME REPORTING REQUIREMENTS	2/9	passed Senate 16-13 ; ready for Secretary of State.