

ADVS State Veterans/Military Legislation Update

55th Arizona Legislature, First Regular Session

Friday, May 28, 2021

Inclusion of any legislation in this report does not constitute endorsement of that legislation by the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services.

(Notations in Red represent new information or final action.)

SB = Senate Bill

SCM = Senate Concurrent Memorial

SCR = Senate Concurrent Resolution

SR = Senate Resolution

HB = House Bill

HCM = House Concurrent Memorial

HCR = House Concurrent Resolution

HJR= House Joint Resolution

HR = House Resolution

To view bills go to: <http://www.azleg.gov/bills/>

BUDGET BILLS

[HB2891/SB1819 budget procedures; budget reconciliation; 2021-2022](#)

As permanent law, expand the use of the Monument and Memorial Repair Fund to include alter and modify monuments and memorials.

Major Actions: 24 May 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Appropriations and Rules Committees and Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees, respectively.

HB2891: 25 May 2021- Received a "Do Pass" recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 7-6-0-0. Passed House Rules. Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus.

SB1819: 25 May 2021- Received a "Do Pass" recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 6-4-1-0. 26 May 2021- Passed Senate Rules. Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus.

[HB2892/SB1820 capital outlay; appropriations; 2021-2022](#)

- Appropriates \$25,000,000 from the GF in FY 2022 to ADVS to construct and establish a Veterans' home facility in the Northwestern portion of this state.
- States that the appropriation made is intended to be Arizona's share of the costs and is not subject to expenditure unless ADVS has irrevocable commitments from the US Government to fund at least 65% of the total costs.
- Requires ADVS to submit the proposed site location in the Northwestern portion of this state to the Arizona Veterans' Services Advisory Commission for approval.
 - ADVS must provide the Commission a feasibility analysis of suitable sites to consider when approving the site location.

- Mandates that prior to spending the appropriation, ADVS must submit the scope, purpose and estimated cost of the capital improvements to the Joint Committee on Capital Review for its review pursuant to existing statute.
- Exempts the appropriations from lapsing.

Major Actions: 24 May 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Appropriations and Rules Committees and Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees, respectively.

HB2892: 25 May 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 7-6-0-0. Passed House Rules. Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus.

SB1820: 25 May 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 7-3-1-0. 26 May 2021- Passed Senate Rules. Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus.

HB2893/SB1821 criminal justice; budget reconciliation; 2021-2022

- As session law, extend the provision allowing the department to expend up to \$1,250,000 from the Military Installation Fund through June 30, 2026 for the construction of a new Readiness Center.
 - This authority was previously in effect through FY 2022.
- As permanent law, establish the non-appropriated Border Security Fund, which shall be used for preventing human trafficking, preventing unlawful entry into the state, commercial vehicle inspection infrastructure, clearing nonindigenous plants, and constructing and maintaining a physical border fence.
- As permanent law, create a National Guard Cyber Response Revolving Fund with monies appropriated by the Legislature and monies received as reimbursement costs for the state has incurred for cyber-attack prevention, response, and support activities.
 - Monies in the fund may be used for costs incurred for those same purposes or costs associated with assisting agencies and political subdivisions with cyber support activities.

Major Actions: 24 May 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Appropriations and Rules Committees and Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees, respectively.

HB2893: 25 May 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 7-6-0-0. Passed House Rules. Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus.

SB1821: 25 May 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 6-4-1-0. 26 May 2021- Passed Senate Rules. Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus.

HB2894/SB1822 environment; budget reconciliation; 2021-2022

No identified impacts to ADVS or Veterans/Military.

Major Actions: 24 May 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Appropriations and Rules Committees and Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees, respectively.

HB2894: 25 May 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 7-6-0-0. Passed House Rules. Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus.

SB1822: 25 May 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 6-4-1-0. 26 May 2021- Passed Senate Rules. Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus.

HB2895/SB1823 general appropriations act; 2021-2022

ADVS

- Increased appropriations from the State Veterans' Home Trust Fund for: Operating Costs for New Veterans' Homes; Increase Tucson Operating Capacity; and Rehabilitation Services for Veterans.
- Appropriates \$774,000 for 12 additional Veteran Benefits Counselors. (\$732,000 Ongoing/\$42,000 One-Time)
- Supplemental appropriation of \$100,000 from the Veterans' Income Tax Settlement Fund to the Department of Veterans' Services to distribute to a charitable organization that is qualified under section 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code, that is located in southern Arizona and that works with regional veterans organizations to improve services to reduce veteran suicides.
 - This appropriation is exempt from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating to lapsing of appropriations, until June 30, 2023.

Department of Emergency and Military Affairs Footnote Changes:

- Adds footnote extending to FY 2026 the lapsing date of the FY 2019 appropriation of \$3,759,000 from the General Fund for the construction of a new Tucson Readiness Center. (Capital)
- Adds footnote extending to FY 2026 the lapsing date of the FY 2020 appropriation of \$3,875,000 from the General Fund for the construction of a new West Valley Readiness Center. (Capital)
- Adds footnote to allow a 90-day extension of the lapsing of any appropriation to the National Guard Tuition Reimbursement Program.
- Adds footnote requiring the department to submit a report on the status of expenditures and progress in relocating the Yuma County Fairgrounds to the JCCR on or before July 31, 2022 and July 31, 2023. Makes the appropriation non-lapsing. (Capital)
- Adds footnote specifying the distribution of the \$55,000,000 DEMA Security Fund. Of the appropriation, \$2,700,000 shall be equally distributed (\$675,000) to DPS, and Cochise, Pinal, and Yuma counties to operate a pilot program to reduce human trafficking. In addition, a total of \$1,100,000 is allocated to Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz, and Yuma County Sheriffs to purchase cameras and other related equipment for Southern Arizona border enforcement. Of the appropriation, \$20,000,000 will be distributed to cities and counties for border-related crimes. Of the appropriation, \$25,000,000 is allocated for Arizona National Guard costs in the southern border region.
- Adds footnote exempting 2022 capital appropriations from JCCR review. (Capital)

Major Actions: 24 May 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Appropriations and Rules Committees and Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees, respectively.

HB2895: 25 May 2021- Received a "Do Pass" recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 7-6-0-0. Passed House Rules. Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus.

SB1823: 25 May 2021- Received a "Do Pass" recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 6-4-1-0. 26 May 2021- Passed Senate Rules. Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus.

[HB2896/SB1824 health; budget reconciliation; 2021-2022](#)

As permanent law, requires the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman to visit long-term care facilities biannually, requires the Ombudsman to speak with residents or their representatives, investigate and resolve complaints and refer cases to Adult Protective Services or the appropriate agency.

Major Actions: 24 May 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Appropriations and Rules Committees and Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees, respectively.

HB2896: 25 May 2021- Received a "Do Pass" recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 7-6-0-0. Passed House Rules. Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus.

SB1824: 25 May 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 6-4-1-0. 26 May 2021- Passed Senate Rules. Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus.

HB2897/SB1825 higher education; budget reconciliation; 2021-2022

No impact to ADVS; however, Veterans with no VA education benefits available may benefit from:

- As session law, establish a Return to Work Program to provide last-dollar community college scholarships to part-time students who were receiving unemployment benefits as of May 13, 2021, are currently working at least 20 hours per week, and are earning an income of less than \$25 per hour. Allows awards to cover up to 6 credit hours per semester for up to 2 years or 4 academic semesters. Requires the Department of Economic Security (DES) to reimburse community colleges for scholarships provided under the program.

Major Actions: 24 May 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Appropriations and Rules Committees and Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees, respectively. S

HB2897: 25 May 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 7-6-0-0. Passed House Rules. Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus.

SB1825: 25 May 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 6-4-1-0. 26 May 2021- Passed Senate Rules. Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus.

HB2898/SB1826 K-12 education; budget reconciliation; 2021-2022

No identified impact to ADVS or Veterans/Military.

Major Actions: 24 May 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Appropriations and Rules Committees and Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees, respectively.

HB2898: 25 May 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 7-6-0-0. Passed House Rules. Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus.

SB1826: 25 May 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 6-4-1-0. 26 May 2021- Passed Senate Rules. Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus.

HB2899/SB1827 revenue; budget reconciliation; 2021-2022

As session law, delay the reversion of Native American Veteran's Income Tax Settlement Fund monies from June 30, 2021 to June 30, 2023

Major Actions: 24 May 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Appropriations and Rules Committees and Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees, respectively.

HB2899: 25 May 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 7-6-0-0. Passed House Rules. Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus.

SB1827: 25 May 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 6-4-1-0. 26 May 2021- Passed Senate Rules. Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus.

[HB2900/SB1828 omnibus; taxation](#)

Highlights below. A detailed Senate Fact Sheet can be found [here](#).

- As permanent law, provides a full individual income tax exemption for benefits, annuities, and pensions received by military retirees, beginning in TY 2021. The current exemption is \$3,500.
- As permanent law, establishes a nonrefundable affordable housing tax credit that is equal to at least 50% of the amount of the federal low-income housing credit for qualified projects placed in service after June 30, 2022. The Arizona Department of Housing is authorized to allocate a total of \$4 million in tax credits per year from TY 2022 to TY 2025. Each of these 4 award cycles is available for 10 years.
- As permanent law, make changes to unemployment insurance taxes and benefits if the following 2 conditions are met on or after July 1, 2022: 1) The state unemployment rate in the prior calendar quarter is 5% or less, and 2) The average unemployment tax rate for the next calendar year is 1.4% or less. The changes include:
 - An increase in the maximum weekly unemployment insurance benefit from \$240 per week to \$320 per week
 - An increase in the taxable payroll base from \$7,000 to \$8,000 in the next calendar year
 - A decrease in the maximum number of weeks of unemployment benefits from 26 weeks to 24 weeks if the state unemployment rate is less than 5% in the prior calendar quarter
- As permanent law, require DES to obtain current and actual employment and earned income information from third-party sources when it determines eligibility for unemployment benefits. The identity verification process may include digital and/or physical identity authentication factors. Requires DES to report by December 31st annually on unemployment insurance fraud for the previous fiscal year.

Major Actions: 24 May 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Appropriations and Rules Committees and Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees, respectively.

HB2900: 25 May 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 7-6-0-0. Passed House Rules. Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus.

SB1828: 25 May 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 6-3-2-0. 26 May 2021- Passed Senate Rules. Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus.

[HB2901/SB1829 transportation; budget reconciliation; 2021-2022](#)

No identified impact to ADVS or Veterans.

Major Actions: 24 May 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Appropriations and Rules Committees and Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees, respectively.

HB2901: 25 May 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 7-6-0-0. Passed House Rules. Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus.

SB1829: 25 May 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 6-4-1-0. 26 May 2021- Passed Senate Rules. Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus.

Bills Impacting Veterans/Military

Senate Bills

SB 1024 Enduring Freedom Memorial; appropriation

Allows the Department of Administration (ADOA) to use appropriated monies from the State Monument and Memorial Repair Fund (SMMRF) to alter or modify the Enduring Freedom Memorial to add additional names to the memorial. Additionally, appropriates \$21,422.91 from the SMMRF to ADOA in FY22 to alter or modify the Enduring Freedom Memorial to add additional names to the memorial.

Adopted House MAPS Committee Amendment

Adds that ADOA must use monies from the SMMRF to “alter or modify” monuments in addition to using the monies from SMMRF to maintain, repair, recondition or relocate monuments and memorials.

Primary Sponsor(s): Sen. Kelly Townsend, R-Dist. 16

Major Actions: 11 Jan 2021- First Read and assigned to the Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees. 19 Jan 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 9-0-1-0. 25 Jan 2021- Passed Senate Rules. 26- Passed Democrat and Republican Caucus. 28 Jan 2021- Passed Senate Third Read with a vote of 28-1-1-0. Transmitted to the House.

24 Feb 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Military Affairs & Public Safety, Appropriations and Rules Committees. 08 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the House Military Affairs & Public Safety Committee with a vote of 13-0-0-1. 30 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 13-0-0-0. **Provisions of this bill are included in the budget package shown above.**

SB 1081 wishes; critically ill children; license plates

As passed the Senate, establishes wishes for children with critical illnesses special plates and the Wishes for Children with Critical Illnesses Special Plate Fund (Fund).

Adopted Strike Everything Amendment

S/E Title: registration; unclaimed property locaters

Establishes the Veteran Housing Trust Fund within the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System consisting of proceeds from the sale of abandoned property in the amount of \$1,000,000 each fiscal year and specifies that monies from the fund must be used solely for housing projects and rental assistance for homeless Veterans.

Primary Sponsor(s): Sen. David Livingston, R-Dist. 22

Major Actions: 20 Jan 2020- First Read and assigned to the Senate Transportation & Technology and Rules Committees. 01 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Transportation & Technology Committee with a vote of 9-0-0-0. 08 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Rules. 09 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus. 11 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Committee of the Whole. 16 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Third Read with a vote of 26-3-1-0. Transmitted to the House.

16 Feb 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Transportation Committee. 17 Mar 2021- HELD in the House Transportation Committee. **25 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended/Strike Everything” recommendation from the House Transportation Committee with a vote of 10-2-0-0.**

SB 1172 veterans’ home facility; Mohave County

Appropriates \$25,000,000 from the State General Fund in FY22 to the Arizona Department of Veterans’ Services (ADVS) to construct and establish a veterans’ home facility in Mohave County. The appropriation is intended to be this state’s share of the costs and is not subject to expenditure for any purpose unless ADVS has irrevocable commitments from the United States government to fund at least 65% of the total costs. Contains an Emergency Clause.

Primary Sponsor(s): Sen. Sonny Borrelli, R-Dist. 5

Major Actions: 19 Jan 2021- First read and assigned to the Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees. 02 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 10-0-0-0. 08 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Rules. 09 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus. 11 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Third Read with a vote of 28-1-0-0. Transmitted to the House.

24 Feb 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Military Affairs & Public Safety, Appropriations and Rules Committees. 01 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Military Affairs & Public Safety Committee with a vote of 13-0-0-1. 10 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 13-0-0-1. **Provisions of this bill are included in the budget package shown above.**

SB 1260 property tax exemptions; statutory conformity

- Conditional on the voter approval of S.C.R. 1019, exempts, from property tax, the property of veterans with service or nonservice-connected disabilities who are Arizona residents.
- Inserts the correlating resolution for the conditional enactment
- Updates the exemption amount for widows, widowers, persons with a disability and veterans with a service or nonservice-connected disability to reflect the present-day amount of \$4,117, which is statutorily required to be increased based on the average annual percentage increase in the Gross Domestic Product price deflator.
- Updates the exemption amount for property used in trade or in business or for agricultural purposes to reflect the present-day amount of \$195,878.
- Updates the total assessment limit and the household income limit to reflect the present-day amounts.

Primary Sponsor(s): Sen. JD Mesnard, R-Dist. 17

Major Actions: 21 Jan 2021- First read and assigned to the Senate Finance and Rules Committee. 03 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the Senate Finance Committee with a vote of 8-2-0-0. 08 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Rules. 09 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Majority and Minority Caucus. 24 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the Senate Committee of the Whole. 01 Mar 2021- FAILED Senate Third Read with a vote of 14-15-1-0. Motion to reconsider whereby the Senate failed to pass SB 1260 on Third Reading on March 1, 2021. Motion carried. 04 Mar 2021- Passed Senate Third Read on reconsideration with a vote of 16-14-0-0. Transmitted to the House.

09 Mar 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Ways & Means and Rules Committees. **17 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Ways & Means Committee with a vote of 5-4-0-1.**

SB 1411 technical correction; military affairs (NOW: unemployment insurance; benefits; duration; fund; fraud)

- Increases the maximum weekly unemployment benefit amount (WBA) to:
 - \$320 on the general effective date; and
 - \$400 beginning July 1 following the date the Department of Economic Security (DES) determines Arizona meets the federal criteria to receive an interest-free unemployment insurance loan.
- Increases the amount an individual may earn with no reduction to their WBA (income disregard) from \$30 to \$160
- Increases the state unemployment tax taxable wage limit from \$7,000 to:
 - \$8,000 in calendar year 2022; and
 - \$9,000 in calendar year 2023

Prescribes requirements for the DES to obtain employment and income information and reduces, effective January 1, 2022, the maximum duration of benefits, if Arizona's unemployment rate is less than six percent.

Adopted House Committee Amendment

Removes the requirements that the external employment and income information must be actual, real-time and nonmodeled and provided by employers.

Primary Sponsor(s): Sen. Karen Fann, R-Dist. 1

Major Actions: 27 Jan 2021- First Read and assigned to the Senate Rules Committee. 16 Feb 2021- Assigned to the Senate Appropriations Committee. 23 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended/Strike Everything” recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 9-1-0-0. 24 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Rules. Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus. 11 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the Senate Committee of the Whole. 11 Mar 2021- Passed Third Read with a vote of 25-4-1-0. Transmitted to the House.

16 Mar 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Appropriations and Rules Committees. 30 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 10-3-0-0. **Provisions pertaining to Unemployment Insurance benefits are included in the budget package shown above.**

SB 1514 appropriation; emergency shelter beds; seniors

- Appropriates \$5,000,000 from the state General Fund in FY 2022 to the Department of Economic Security for emergency shelter beds in western Maricopa County for seniors.
- Requires DES to distribute the monies to a single Arizona nonprofit provider that meets the following requirements:
 - experience in sheltering 400 or more homeless individuals nightly in temporary shelter;
 - at least 10 years of experience working with the chronically homeless in Maricopa County;
 - experience in providing housing placement services under the Housing First Model; and
 - participation in the Coordinated Entry System pursuant to the requirements of the Maricopa Regional Continuum of Care.

Adopted House Floor Amendment

- Removes the appropriation.

- Requires the Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH), rather than the Department of Economic Security, to provide for emergency shelter beds in western Maricopa County.
- Requires ADOH to contract with, rather than distribute monies to, a single Arizona nonprofit provider that meets certain criteria.

Primary Sponsor(s): Sen. David Livingston, R-Dist. 22

Major Actions: 01 Feb 2021- First Read and assigned to the Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees. 09 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 8-1-1-0. 15 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Rules. 16 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus. 18 Feb 2021- Passed to Senate Third Read with a vote of 27-3-0-0. Transmitted to the House.

02 Mar 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Health & Human Services, Appropriations and Rules Committees. 15 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Health & Human Services Committee with a vote of 9-0-0-0. 17 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 12-0-0-1. 25 May 2021- Passed House Rules. Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus. 26 May 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the House Committee of the Whole. Passed House Third Read with a vote of 52-8-0-0. Concurrence Recommended. Senate Concur motion passed. Passed Senate Final Read with a vote of 29-0-1-0. **27 May 2021- Transmitted to the Governor.**

SB 1559 Native American veterans; tax settlement

Extends the amount of time that the monies in the Veterans' Income Tax Settlement Fund revert to the State General Fund from June 30, 2021 to June 30, 2024 and the amount of time that Arizona Department of Veterans' Services will accept applications from December 31, 2019 to December 31, 2022.

Primary Sponsor(s): Sen. Jamescita Peshlakai, D-Dist. 7

Major Actions: 01 Feb 2021- First Read and assigned to the Senate Finance and Rules Committees. 17 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Finance Committee with a vote of 7-0-3-0. 22 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Rules. Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus. 24 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Committee of the Whole. 01 Mar 2021- Passed Senate Third Read with a vote of 29-0-1-0. Transmitted to House.

03 Mar 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Ways & Means and Rules Committees. 24 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Ways & Means Committee with a vote of 10-0-0-0. **Provisions of this bill are included in the budget package shown above.**

SCR 1019 constitutional property tax exemptions

Subject to voter approval, amends the Constitution of Arizona to repeal sections relating to property tax exemptions and replaces the sections with one consolidated property tax exemption section and allows the Legislature to exempt the following:

- Property of an educational, charitable or religious association or institution that is not used or held for profit;
- Personal property that is used in a trade or business or for agricultural purposes;
- Cemeteries that are set apart and used to inter deceased human beings;
- The property of a widow or widower who is an Arizona resident;
- Property of an Arizona resident who is at least 18 years-old and has a medically certified total and permanent disability; and

- The property of an honorably discharged veteran who is an Arizona resident with a service or non-service-related disability as determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Primary Sponsor(s): Sen. JD Mesnard, R-Dist. 17

Major Actions: 21 Jan 2021- First read and assigned to the Senate Finance and Rules Committee. 03 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Finance Committee with a vote of 8-2-0-0. 08 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Rules. 09 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Majority and Minority Caucus. 03 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Committee of the Whole. 08 Mar 2021- Passed Senate Third Read with a vote of 18-12-0-0. Transmitted to the House.

10 Mar 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Ways & Means and Rules Committees. 17 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Ways & Means Committee with a vote of 5-4-0-1. 22 Mar 2021- Passed House Rules. **23 Mar 2021- Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus.**

House Bills

[HB 2128 state licensing; fee waivers](#)

- Requires that the occupational licensing fee be waived for any active duty military service member and the member’s spouse or for any honorably discharged veteran who has been discharged not more than two years before application, if the individual is applying for that specific license in this site for the first time.
- Appropriates \$250,000 from the state General Fund each fiscal year to the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) to reimburse an agency on a first-come, first-serve basis for fees that the agency waived; and
- Directs an agency to apply to ADOA for reimbursement of the waived fees.

[Fiscal Note](#)

Per the JLBC Fiscal Note, HB 2128 would reduce licensing revenue and General Fund revenue; however, due to a lack of distributional data on Arizona veterans' occupations, they are unable to estimate the magnitude of this impact.

Primary Sponsor(s): Representative Joanne Osbourne, R-Dist. 13

Major Actions: 20 Jan 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Military Affairs & Public Safety and Rules Committees. 01 Feb 2021- HELD in the House Military Affairs & Public Safety Committee. 15 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Military Affairs & Public Safety Committee with a vote of 9-5-0-0. 22 Feb 2021- Passed House Rules. Passed Majority and Minority Caucus. 24 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the House Committee of the Whole. 04 Mar 2021- Passed House Third Read with a vote of 57-2-1-0. Transmitted to the Senate.

08 Mar 2021- First Read and assigned to the Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees. **16 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 10-0-0-0.**

HB 2288 appropriation; military installation projects

Appropriates \$5,000,000 from the State General Fund in FY22 to the Department of Emergency and Military Affairs to distribute to Yuma County for military installation preservation and enhancement projects.

Primary Sponsor(s): Rep. Timothy Dunn, R-Dist. 13

Major Actions: 26 Jan 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Military Affairs & Public Safety, Appropriations and Rules Committees. 01 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Military Affairs & Public Safety Committee with a vote of 14-0-0-0. 03 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 12-1-0-0. 08 Feb 2021- Passed House Rules. 09 Feb 2021- Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus. 11 Feb 2021- Passed House Third Read with a vote of 50-10-0-0. Transmitted to the Senate.

18 Feb 2021- First Read and assigned to the Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees. 02 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 10-0-0-0. **Provisions of this bill are included in the budget package.**

HB 2472 special license plates; veterans design

Establishes the Veterans of Overseas Conflicts special plates if by December 31, 2021, a person pays \$32,000 to the Arizona Department of Transportation for implementation. Additionally, establishes the Veterans of Overseas Conflicts Special Plates Fund consisting of donations from the Veterans of Overseas Conflicts Special Plates. Monies from the fund shall be annually allocated to a Veterans of Foreign Wars entity located in this state, for the purposes of training and paying persons throughout this state where needed to process veterans’ claims for service-connected disabilities and illnesses.

Adopted Senate Committee Amendment

Asserts that the person who pays the \$32,000 must design the Veterans of Overseas Conflicts Special Plates with the design and color of the special plates subject to the approval of the Department.

Primary Sponsor(s): Rep. Richard Andrade, D-Dist. 29

Major Actions: 27 Jan 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Transportation and Rules Committees. 03 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Transportation Committee with a vote of 8-0-0-4. 08 Feb 2021- Passed House Rules. 09 Feb 2021- Passed Majority and Minority Caucus. 24 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the House Committee of the Whole. 24 Feb 2021- Passed House Third Read with a vote of 43-15-2-0. 25 Feb 2021- Transmitted to the Senate.

02 Mar 2021- First Read and assigned to the Senate Transportation & Technology and Rules Committees. 22 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the Senate Transportation & Technology Committee with a vote of 8-0-1-0. **29 Mar 2021- Passed Senate Rules. 30 Mar 2021- Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus.**

HB 2473 veterans; special license plates; design

Establishes the Veterans of Overseas Conflicts Auxiliary special plates if by December 31, 2021, a person pays \$32,000 to the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) for implementation. Additionally, establishes the Veterans of Overseas Conflicts Auxiliary Special Plates Fund consisting of donations from the Veterans of Overseas Conflicts Auxiliary Special Plates. Monies from the fund shall be

annually allocated to a Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary entity located in this state for the purposes of using the monies to fund its charitable works.

[Adopted Senate Committee Amendment](#)

Asserts that the person who pays the \$32,000 must design the Veterans of Overseas Conflicts Special Plates with the design and color of the special plates subject to the approval of the Department.

Primary Sponsor(s): Rep. Richard Andrade, D-Dist. 29

Major Actions: 27 Jan 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Transportation and Rules Committees. . 03 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Transportation Committee with a vote of 9-0-0-3. 08 Feb 2021- Passed House Rules. 09 Feb 2021- Passed Majority and Minority Caucus. 24 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the House Committee of the Whole. 24 Feb 2021- Passed House Third Read with a vote of 40-18-2-0. 25 Feb 2021- Transmitted to the Senate.

02 Mar 2021- First Read and assigned to the Senate Transportation & Technology and Rules Committees. 22 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the Senate Transportation & Technology Committee with a vote of 8-0-1-0. **29 Mar 2021- Passed Senate Rules. 30 Mar 2021- Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus**

[HB 2565 area agencies on aging; appropriation](#)

Appropriates \$2,500,000 from the state General Fund in FY 2022 to the Department of Economic Security to distribute to area agencies on aging for home and community-based services.

[Adopted Strike-Everything Amendment](#)

S/E Title: appropriation; affordable housing

- Appropriates \$5,000,000 from the state General Fund in FY 2022 to the Housing Trust Fund.
- Requires ADOH to use the monies to award grants for:
 - mortgage down payment assistance;
 - services for homeless youth and families; and
 - emergency shelter beds.
- Requires ADOH, before awarding any grants, to submit an expenditure plan to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

Primary Sponsor(s): Rep. Alma Hernandez, D-Dist. 3

Major Actions: 28 Jan 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Health & Human Services, Appropriations and Rules Committees. 28 Jan 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Health & Human Services Committee with a vote of 7-2-0-0. 10 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Appropriations Committee with a vote of 12-1-0-0. 22 Feb 2021- Passed House Rules. Passed Majority and Minority Caucus. 24 Feb 2021- Passed House Third Read with a vote of 45-14-1-0. 25 Feb 2021- Transmitted to the Senate.

02 Mar 2021- First Read and assigned to the Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees. **31 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended/Strike Everything” recommendation from the Senate appropriations Committee with a vote of 9-0-1-0.**

HB 2668 nutrition assistance; benefit match; appropriation

Appropriates \$1,000,000 from the state General Fund in FY 2022 to the Department of Economic Security for a Produce Incentive Program.

Adopted Strike-Everything Amendment

S/E Title: homelessness; grants

Prohibits a person from using state property for camping or setting up long-term homeless shelters except in structured camping facilities. Provides methods and procedures for allocating specified funds to programs that assist persons experiencing homelessness.

Primary Sponsor(s): Rep. Joel John, R-Dist. 4

Major Actions: 02 Feb 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Health & Human Services, Appropriations and Rules Committees. 08 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Health & Human Services Committee with a vote of 8-0-1-0. 10 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 11-1-0-1. 22 Feb 2021- Passed House Rules. Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus. 23 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the House Committee of the Whole. 23 Feb 2021- Passed House Third Read with a vote of 40-19-1-0. 24 Feb 2021- Transmitted to the Senate.

02 Mar 2021- First Read and assigned to the Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees. **31 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended/Strike Everything” recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 5-4-1-0.**

HB 2706 appropriation; veterans’ services; benefits counselors

Appropriates \$948,400 from the State General Fund in FY 22 to the Arizona Department of Veterans’ Services to hire additional benefits counselors.

Primary Sponsor(s): Rep. Richard Andrade, D-Dist. 29

Major Actions: 01 Feb 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Military Affairs & Public Safety, Appropriations and Rules Committees. 08 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from House Military Affairs & Public Safety Committee with a vote of 13-0-0-1. 10 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 13-0-0-0. 22 Feb 2021-22 Feb 2021- Passed House Rules. Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus. 24 Feb 2021- Passed House Third Read with a vote of 56-3-1-0. 25 Feb 2021- Transmitted to the Senate.

02 Mar 2021- First Read and assigned to the Appropriations and Rules Committees. **An appropriation for 12 Veteran Benefit Counselors is included in the budget package shown above.**

HB 2805 unemployment insurance; benefits; tax base

Increases the taxable wage base, unemployment weekly benefit amount and income disregard cap beginning January 1, 2022 as follows:

- Taxable wage base from in excess of \$7,000 to in excess of \$8,000 beginning January 1, 2022.
- Unemployment weekly benefit amount from \$240 to \$300 beginning January 1, 2022.
- Income disregard amount from \$30 to \$160.

Fiscal Note

JLBC estimates that the bill, as introduced, would increase UI Trust Fund revenues by \$77.9 million in calendar year (CY) 2022 and comparable amounts in CY 2023 and CY 2024. It is also estimated that the bill would increase UI benefit expenditures by \$65.5 million in CY 2022, \$51.0 million in CY 2023, and \$36.4 million in CY 2024. The resulting net increase in the cash balance of the UI Trust Fund balance relative to current law would be \$12.4 million in CY 2022, \$27.7 million in CY 2023, and \$43.1 million in CY 2024

Primary Sponsor(s): Rep. David Cook, R-Dist. 8

Major Actions: 09 Feb 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Military Affairs & Public Safety and Rules Committees. 15 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Military Affairs & Public Safety Committee with a vote of 14-0-0-0. 22 Feb 2021- Passed House Rules. Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus. 24 Feb 2021- Passed House Third Read with a vote of 50-9-1-0. 25 Feb 2021- Transmitted to the Senate.

11 Mar 2021- First Read and assigned to the Senate Appropriations Committee. 31 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 8-2-0-0. **Provisions pertaining to Unemployment Insurance benefits are included in the budget package shown above.**

Bills that Impact the ADVS Administratively

Senate Bills

[SB 1074 NOW: governance; audits; training](#)

Requires the certified public accountant (CPA) or auditor to present audit results to certain members within 90 days after a statutory audit.

[Adopted House Floor Amendment](#)

Prohibits this state, a state agency, city, town, county or political subdivision of this state from using public monies for and requiring an employee to engage in orientation, training or therapy that presents any form of blame or judgment on the basis of race, ethnicity or sex and specifies that this does not preclude any training on sexual harassment.

Primary Sponsor(s): Sen. David Livingston, R-Dist. 22

Major Actions: 20 Jan 2021- First Read and assigned to the Senate Government and Rules Committees. 08 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the Senate Government Committee. 15 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Rules. 16 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus. 22 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the Senate Committee of the Whole. 24 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Third Read with a vote of 18-12-0-0. Transmitted to the House.

02 Mar 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Government & Elections and Rules Committees. 10 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Government & Elections Committee with a vote of 7-6-0-0. 22 Mar 2021- Passed House Rules. 23 Mar 2021- Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus. 05 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the House Committee of the Whole. Passed House Third Read with a vote of 31-29-0-0. Transmitted to the Senate. 20 May 2021- Concurrence Recommended. **27 May 2021-**

Senate to Concur motion passed. Passed Senate Final Read with a vote of 16-14-0-0. Transmitted to the Governor.

SB 1112 noncustodial federal monies; appropriation

- Beginning January 1, 2023, authorizes the Legislature to appropriate noncustodial federal monies. Defines noncustodial federal monies as federal monies that meet one of the following criteria:
 - Designated by the federal government as a block grant monies;
 - Designated by the federal government as general revenue sharing monies;
 - Provides the state with broad authority to make spending decisions to develop, implement or operate a program or service; or
 - Considered essential to meet total spending obligations of a federally matched program.
- Requires a budget unit that receives noncustodial federal monies to account for the monies in separate accounts or funds as necessary to meeting accounting, budgeting and auditing requirements.
- Specifies if the Legislature does not appropriate for a specific fund, grant program or block of noncustodial federal monies, the authorized budget unit must administer and spend the monies according to federal and state law.
- Requires the Legislature to specify, in each noncustodial federal monies appropriation, the purposes the monies are to be used.
- Contains a delayed effective date of January 1, 2023.

Primary Sponsor(s): Sen. JD Mesnard, R-Dist. 17

Major Actions: 20 Jan 2021- First Read and assigned to the Senate Appropriations and Rules Committees. 02 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Appropriations Committee with a vote of 7-3-0-0. 08 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Rules. 09 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus. 16 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Third Read with a vote of 16-14-0-0. Transmitted to the House.

24 Feb 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Appropriations and Rules Committees. 24 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 8-4-0-1. 29 Mar 2021- Passed House Rules. 31 Mar 2021- Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus.

SB 1116 state permitting dashboard

Requires the Governor to appoint a State Permitting Director (Director) and requires the Director to establish an online permitting dashboard that displays the progress of state authorizations for participating projects. Outlines requirements for eligible projects, the permitting dashboard and dispute resolution.

Adopted House Committee Amendment

- Modifies the notice requirement to include a project description with geographical information.
- Removes tribal governments from the required state and local government coordination relating to a participating project.
- Adds the Senate and House of Representatives Appropriations Committees to the permitting dashboard report that is submitted.
- States that the State Permitting Director position is included in the full-time equivalent positions in the Office of the Governor.

- Appropriates \$500,000 from the state General Fund in fiscal year 2022 to the Arizona Department of Administration to develop the state permitting dashboard.

Primary Sponsor(s): Sen. David Gowan, R-Dist. 14

Major Actions: 12 Jan 2021- First Read and assigned to the Senate Government and Rules Committees. 01 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Government Committee with a vote of 8-0-0. 08 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Rules. 09 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus. 16 Feb 2021- Passed Senate Third Read with a vote of 29-1-0-0. Transmitted to the House.

24 Feb 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Appropriations and Rules Committee. 30 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 9-4-0-0. **Provisions of this bill are included in the budget package.**

House Bills

[HB 2551 misconduct involving weapons; public places](#)

Allows a person with a valid permit to carry a concealed weapon (CCW) to carry a deadly weapon into a public event or public establishment, with the following exceptions:

- A public event or public establishment that is a secure facility;
- The licensed premises of a public event or public establishment that has a liquor license under A.R.S. Title 4;
- A state, county or municipal judicial department, prosecutorial office or facility, law enforcement agency or correctional facility;
- An area where firearm possession is prohibited by federal law;
- An educational institution defined in A.R.S. § 13-2911;
- A community college district or a university under the jurisdiction of the Arizona Board of Regents;
- Facilities operated by the Arizona State Hospital; or
- A public establishment that is a vehicle or craft.

Defines “Secured Facility” as:

- A public establishment or public event that has security personnel and electronic weapons screening devices at each entrance;
- A public establishment or public event with security personnel who screen each person and require every person carrying a weapon to leave it in temporary and secure storage; or
- The area of a public event or public establishment that is not generally accessible to the public and has:
 - Security personnel, or
 - Biometric, coded or employee-restricted entry to limit access.

Primary Sponsor(s): Rep. John Kavanagh, R-Dist. 23

Major Actions: 28 Jan 2021- First Read and assigned to the House Judiciary and Rules Committees. 01 Feb 2021- W/D from the House Judiciary Committee and re-assigned to the House Government & Elections Committee. 10 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the House Government & Elections Committee with a vote of 7-6-0-0. 15 Feb 2021-Passed House Rules. 16 Feb 2021- Passed House Majority and Minority Caucus. 23 Feb 2021- Received a “Do Pass as Amended” recommendation from the House Committee of the

Whole. 24 Feb 2021- Passed House Third Read with a vote of 31-29-0-0. 25 Feb 2021- Transmitted to the Senate.

02 March 2021- First Read and assigned to the Senate Judiciary and Rules Committees. 18 Mar 2021- Received a “Do Pass” recommendation from the Senate Judiciary Committee with a vote of 5-2-1-0.