



Federal Legislation of Note

United States House of Representatives HR9566: THE “AMERICAN TEACHER ACT”



To provide grants to States to support State efforts to increase teacher salaries, and for other purposes



SEC. 2. GRANTS TO SUPPORT STATE EFFORTS TO INCREASE TEACHER SALARIES



(a) Teacher Salary Incentive Grant —

(1) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to ensure that each teacher who is employed full-time at a qualifying school in a State earns an annual salary for any year of employment of not less than \$60,000 (adjusted for inflation)



(2) GRANTS FOR MINIMUM SALARY THRESHOLD—

(A) IN GENERAL.—From amounts made available to carry out this section, the Secretary of Education shall award 4-year grants to States. To be eligible to receive such a grant, the State educational agency shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require



Status: 12/14 Introduced and Assigned to Education Committee





Arizona State Legislative Session Statistics*

*As of Monday, February 13, 2023

Session Convened: January 9, 2023

Bills Introduced: 1528

Resolutions Introduced: 97

Resolutions Passed: 3



Arizona State Legislative Deadlines



January 30: Last Day for Senate to introduce bills



February 6: Last day for House members to introduce bills



February 17: Last day for each house to hear its own bills in committee



March 24: Last day for the other house to hear transferred bills in committee



April 14: Last day for consideration of bills in committees



April 18: 100th Day of Session
Sine Die adjournment unless leadership extends





Education Bills Posted by State Legislators in the Amphitheater District*

District 17

Rep. Jones

- HB 2311 School Board Members; Qualifications; Age
- HB 2317 School Counselors; Parental Consent

Sen. Wadsack

- SB 1417 Students With Disabilities; Diaper Changes
- SB 1425 High Schools; Graduation Requirements
- SB 1607 Students With Disabilities; Body Cameras

District 18

Rep. Gutierrez

- HCR 2005 School Districts; Expenditure Limitation; Repeal
- HB 2068 Team Designations; Biological Sex; Repeal

Sen. Sundareshan

- SB 1557 Schools; Academic Standards; Social Studies

District 20

Rep. Cano

- HB 2295 STO Scholarships; Means Testing

*Find information about how to contact your federal and state representatives on the District Website at <https://www.amphi.com/Domain/3999/>



Aggregate Expenditure Limit Bills



➤ Multiple resolutions and bills relating to school district expenditures were introduced at start of the session:

- House: 6 proposed resolutions and 3 bills
- Senate: 4 proposed resolutions and 2 bills



➤ House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 2001 was approved by both houses and transmitted to the Secretary of State on February 9, 2023



“Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, the Senate concurring:

- 1. That the legislature authorizes school districts to spend local revenues in the amount of \$1,385,809,642 in excess of the expenditure limitation prescribed pursuant to article IX, section 21, Constitution of Arizona, in fiscal year 2022-2023.**
- 2. That the authorization provided in paragraph 1 of this resolution is effective only on the approval of this resolution by at least two-thirds of the membership of each house of the legislature by roll call vote on or before March 1, 2023.”**





Fast Moving Bills



SB 1005

UNJUSTIFIED ACTIONS; PARENTAL RIGHTS

Except in "unjustified actions" (defined elsewhere in statute), the court is prohibited from granting attorney fees, expenses, or damages to a governmental entity or official for a claim or defense asserted in a suit brought by a parent based on a violation of statutory parental rights

Status: 2/7 Senate majority and minority caucus, *do pass*; 1/11 Senate Second Read; 1/10 Senate First Read



SB 1044

STUDENT DISCIPLINE; NONATTENDANCE; SUSPENSION; REQUIREMENTS

If a student is suspended from school for nonattendance, including being truant or having an unexcused absence for less than one class period during the day, the person imposing the suspension is required to transfer the suspended student to a location on school premises that is isolated from other students and provide the suspended student with academic work during the suspension period

Status: 2/7 Senate majority and minority caucus, *do pass*; 1/23 Senate Second Read; 1/19 Senate First Read



SCR 1002

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS; SIXTY PERCENT APPROVAL

The 2024 general election ballot is to carry the question of whether to amend the state Constitution to require approval by 60 percent of the votes cast on the measure for an initiative or referendum measure that amends the state Constitution to become law, instead of a majority of the votes cast

Status: 2/7 Senate majority and minority caucus, *do pass*; 1/23 Senate Elec. Committee, *do pass* 5-3; 1/11 Senate Second Read; 1/10 Senate First Read



Bills Focused on Repeal



HB 2068

TEAM DESIGNATIONS; BIOLOGICAL SEX; REPEAL

Would repeal ARS 15-120.02 governing students playing on the team of their biological sex

Status: 1/18 House Second Read; 1/17 House First Read



HB 2460

SUSPENSION; REQUIREMENTS; K-4 STUDENTS

Statutory requirements that must be met in order to suspend or expel a student in kindergarten through fourth grade do not apply to a suspension for two days or less or to an expulsion required due to a student bringing a firearm to school

Status: 1/24 House Second Read; 1/23 House First Read



HCR2026

SCHOOLS; ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS; REQUIREMENTS

The 2024 general election ballot would carry the question of whether to amend state statute to repeal and replace provisions related to English language learners (ELL) as follows:

- Eliminate the requirement that ELL students be enrolled in an ELL program under ARS 15-752 or 15-753
- Requires public schools to ensure that all ELL students:
 1. Receive the highest quality education,
 2. Master the English language, and
 3. Access high quality, innovative research-based language programs
- Gives parent/guardian of ELL student legal standing to sue for enforcement of their above-listed rights, and recover compensatory damages and attorney's fees, but not punitive damages
- Permits schools to establish dual-language immersion programs for both native and non-native English speakers

Status: 1/30 House Second Read; 1/26 House First Read



Bills about Money



HB 2114

APPROPRIATION; FINANCIAL AID TRUST FUND

- Appropriates \$36,700,000 from the state general fund in fiscal year 23-24 to the financial aid trust fund
- This is in addition to other FY 23-24 appropriations

Status: 1/24 House Second Read; 1/23 House First Read



HB 2146

FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS; ADM

For the purpose of school funding, the definition of "full-time student" would be modified to require a full-day kindergarten program to meet for at least 712 hours during the school year.

Status: 1/24 House Second Read; 1/23 House First Read



HB 2147

SCHOOL FUNDING; INFLATION ADJUSTMENT

- FY 23-24: Legislature would be required to increase the amount of DAA and CAA (charter) by at least 2%
- FY 24-25 and each fiscal year after, Legislature would be required to increase the amount of DAA and CAA by a minimum growth rate of either 2% or the change in the GDP price deflator from the second preceding calendar year to the calendar year immediately preceding the budget year, whichever is less
- The amount of DAA and CAA cannot be reduced below the base level established for FY 23-24.

Status: 1/24 House Second Read; 1/23 House First Read



Bills to Watch



HB 2458

RACE; ETHNICITY; PROHIBITED INSTRUCTION

- Originally signed into law as Laws 2021, chapter 404 (part of the FY2021-22 budget) but were deemed unconstitutional by the Arizona Supreme Court in Arizona School Boards Association *et al* v. State of Arizona
- Prohibits a school district or its employees from providing or allowing any person to provide instruction to students or employees that promotes or advocates for any of a list of concepts related to race and ethnicity, which includes that:
 - One race or ethnic group is inherently morally or intellectually superior to another race or ethnic group,
 - An individual, by virtue of the individual's race or ethnicity, is inherently racist or oppressive,
 - An individual, by virtue of the individual's race or ethnicity, bears responsibility or blame for actions committed by other members of the same race or ethnic group, and
 - Academic achievement, meritocracy or traits such as a hard work ethic are racist or were created by members of a particular race or ethnic group to oppress members of another race or ethnic group
- Permits complaints to the State Board of Education (SBE) or State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI) for an alleged violation after the school or agency has had the opportunity to resolve the complaint, with a civil penalty to the school district of up to \$5,000 per violation and potential discipline (including possible loss of certificate) for the employee

Status: 1/23 House Second Read; 1/19 House First Read



HB 2533

CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION; POSTING REQUIREMENTS

Each school district (and charter school) shall post an electronic copy of all of the following on its website free of charge:

- each educational course of study offered by each school in the school district
- a list of all learning materials, including the source of any supplemental educational materials, that are being used in each school in the school district
- each lesson plan that is being used or implemented in each school in the school district

Status: 1/26 House Second Read; 1/25 House First Read

2023 Advocacy Day

Arizona State Capitol Building Historic Senate Chamber
1700 W. Washington Street
Monday, February 20
9 am to 3 pm

