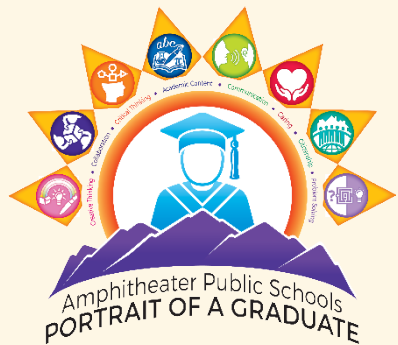


April 11, 2023

Legislative Update



Michelle H. Tong, J.D.

Associate to the Superintendent and General Counsel



Arizona State Legislative Session Statistics*

*As of Monday, April 10, 2023



Bills Introduced: 1528



Bills Transmitted to Governor: 66



Bills Signed by Governor 28



Bills Vetoed by Governor: 38



Resolutions Introduced: 102



Resolutions Passed: 17

House: 13



Senate: 4



Arizona State Legislative Deadlines



April 14: Last day for consideration of bills in committees



April 18: 100th Day of Session



Sine Die adjournment unless leadership extends





Education Bills Signed into Law



SB 1270 OPEN MEETINGS; CAPACITY

Schools, school boards, executive boards, and municipalities are required to provide for an amount of seating sufficient to accommodate the reasonably anticipated attendance of all persons desiring to attend the deliberations and proceedings, when feasible. The agenda for a public meeting is required to include notice of the time that the public will have physical access to the meeting place.



Education Bills Transmitted to Governor



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.



Education Bills with Recent Action

SB 1040

PUBLIC SCHOOLS; RESTROOMS; REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

- Requires a public school to provide a reasonable accommodation to a person who, for any reason, is unwilling or unable to use a multi-occupancy restroom, changing room, or sleeping quarters and requests an accommodation from the public school in writing
- Reasonable accommodation may be:
 - Access to a single-occupancy restroom or changing facility; or
 - Employee restroom or changing facility
 - NOT: access to a restroom or changing facility designated for use by persons of the opposite sex while persons of the opposite sex are, or could be, present
- Grants a private cause of action, against the public school, if:
 - The request is denied without evidence of undue hardship to the school, or
 - A person encounters a person of the opposite sex while using the restroom, changing facility or sleeping quarters and the person of the opposite sex had permission to be there





SB 1163

BOND OR OVERRIDE; CONTRACTS; PROHIBITION

Notwithstanding any other law, if a person makes a contribution to an entity promoting the passage of a bond or override and the bond or override is approved by a vote of qualified electors, the person who makes the contribution may not bid on a contract that is funded as a result of the bond or override.

SB 1323

SCHOOLS; SEXUALLY EXPLICIT MATERIALS; CLASSIFICATION

- Last year, ARS 15-113 and 15-120.03 were signed into law to prohibit referrals to sexually explicit material and require parent consent under certain circumstances
- Definition of sexually explicit material was defined in those statutes
- This bill adds a provision to ARS 15-120.03 to make it a class 5 felony for a school employee or independent contractor to refer a student or to use any sexually explicit material



SB 1331

SCHOOLS; PARENTS; FIREARM POSSESSION

The governing board of an educational institution is prohibited from adopting or enforcing any policy or rule that restricts or prohibits the parent of a student of the educational institution from carrying or transporting a firearm on the property of and in an educational institution if the parent possesses a valid concealed weapons permit.



SB 1410

VIOLATIONS OF STATE LAW; SCHOOLS

- Requires a school district governing board to adopt a policy that permits parents to file a complaint against a school, school district or employee who violates the rights of the parent.
- Requires quarterly reporting to the school district governing board on the status of all such complaints and annual reporting about statistics concerning these parent complaints



SB 1564

NONPUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS; INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES

Students who are educated using an empowerment scholarship account or at a private school with fewer than 100 enrolled students must be allowed to try out for interscholastic activities on behalf of a public school in the same manner as a student enrolled in that public school.





No Budget News to Date