



## Environmental Day and Many Bad Bills this week



February 5, 2022

Hi everyone!

The list of bills introduced got ever longer this week. There are now more than 100 bills associated with voting and elections, and most of those bills are erecting impediments or continuing the big lie with odd and unnecessary requirements.

HB2411 coal combustion residuals program, HR2004 border wall; construction materials; repurpose, and HCR2024 30x30 land program; opposing, all passed out of the House this week along party lines. They are headed to the Senate. If your representatives are Republicans, tell them you are disappointed in their votes. If they are Democrats, you can thank them.

**Keep calling your House members, asking them to oppose [HB2055 Harquahala non-expansion area; groundwater transportation](#) (Griffin: Bowers).** It allows private water companies to import water from the Harquahala Valley and into active management areas (AMAs) for development. Creating groundwater sacrifice zones and further privatizing water is a bad idea. This bill awaits floor action in the House. [You can find your representatives' phone numbers here.](#)

[HB2101 electric energy; reliability; public policy](#) (Griffin: Abraham, Blackman, et al.), which repeals provisions in the law that create parameters for retail competition of electricity, is on the House Rules agenda for Monday. We are still opposed as we have concerns about how it will affect community choice aggregation and have not seen what additional amendments

they may be adding to it.

[SB1376 codes; ordinance; use of refrigerants](#) (Gray) appeared to preempt local government from banning certain refrigerants. After doing additional research, we learned the bill actually allows acceleration of the phase out of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). HFCs contribute significantly to climate change. We have moved to neutral on the bill and will likely support it, but may also ask for some clearer language.

We urge you to create an account on the [Request to Speak System](#), if you have not already. Civic Engagement Beyond Voting (CEBV) is graciously volunteering to sign you up. To get an account set up, just [go to this link](#).

**This week, we encourage you to sign in on [Request to Speak](#) in opposition to the following bills: SB1058, SB1358, SB1396, SB1404, SB1474, HB2253, HB2389, HB2492, HB2602, HB2674, HCR2014, and HCR2015.**

**Sign in to support SB1246, HB2131, and SCM1003.** See the details on the bills below under "Coming Up at the Arizona Legislature this Week."

To view bills we are tracking [go here](#).

If you have not done so already, please sign up for Environmental Day at the Capitol at the end of this message.

Thank you so much for taking action!

All the best,



Sandy Bahr  
Chapter Director  
Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter



## Coming Up at the Arizona Legislature this Week.

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### Monday, February 7th

#### Senate Committee on Transportation & Technology at 2:00 PM in SHR109

- [SB1333 neighborhood occupantless electric vehicles](#) (Pace) includes requirements and restrictions for neighborhood occupantless electric vehicles. This seems like it is probably okay. **MONITOR**

#### Senate Committee on Government at 2:00 PM in SHR1

- [SB1058 drive-up voting; prohibition](#) (Rogers) prohibits allowing voters to vote from a vehicle or using a ballot drop box outside of a polling place, voting center or county recorder or elections department office **OPPOSE**.
- [SB1298 government mask mandate; prohibition](#) (Rogers) prohibits government entities from requiring masks to prevent spread of COVID.
- [SB1343 early ballots; provisionals; precinct tallies](#) (Rogers) requires separate tallies for provisional ballots. **MONITOR**
- [SB1357 election equipment; certification; results](#) (Townsend: Livingston, Rogers, et al.) nullifies any election conducted with a machine or device that was not officially certified and requires the vote tallies from the machine to be removed from the official canvass of the election. **MONITOR**
- [SB1358 hand counts; precincts; procedures manual](#) (Townsend: Livingston, Rogers, et al.) requires ballots in counties using voting centers to be separated and grouped by precinct for the purpose of a hand count audit. This is more of the same nonsense to unnecessarily question ballots from voting centers. **OPPOSE**
- [SB1362 early ballot on-site tabulation](#) (Mesnard) requires every county recorder to have a method for tabulating the elector's completed early ballot on site at a polling place or voting center according to outlined requirements. **MONITOR**
- [SB1380 voter registration rolls; maintenance](#) (Rogers) requires, rather than allows, a county recorder to use National Change of Address information supplied by the U.S. Postal Service to identify registrants whose address may have changed. **MONITOR**
- [SB1404 eligibility; early voting; list](#) (Gowan) severely restricts eligibility to vote an early ballot. Repeals the Active Early Voting List and the authorization for a county recorder to establish on-site early voting locations. **OPPOSE**
- [SB1411 early ballots; tracking system](#) (Mesnard) requires counties with a population of more than 100,000 persons to provide an early ballot tracking system and provide voters with access to the system on the county's website. This seems fine and is similar to what is already provided in Maricopa County. **MONITOR**
- [SB1457 voting machines; hardware; software; access](#) (Borrelli: Barto, Fann, et al.) requires the Secretary of State to ensure that certified vote recording and tabulating machines and devices meet certain security standards, don't have internet connectivity, support the tracking of users based on unique credentials. Again, this is a bill to further the big lie narrative.
- [SB1474 voting; election day only; holiday](#) (Townsend: Burges, Fillmore) establishes the primary and general election days as legal holidays. The catch is that early voting locations or voting centers are repealed. **OPPOSE**
- [SB1477 voter registration; felonies; clerk; database](#) (Townsend: Borrelli, Livingston, et al.) requires a superior court clerk to send a monthly record of felony convictions to the Secretary of State to notify the appropriate county recorder.

#### Senate Committee on Education at 2:00 PM in SHR1

- [SB1246 school buses; electrification; contracts](#) (Boyer) establishes a process for a school district to select preapproved entities to provide electric school buses and related infrastructure and services. This can help expedite acquisition. **SUPPORT**

### Tuesday, February 8th

#### House Committee on Natural Resources, Energy, & Water at 2:00 PM in House Hearing Room 1

- [HB2408 Arizona game and fish; continuation](#) (Griffin) continues the Arizona Game and Fish Department for eight years. While we think the agency should be reformed to better serve the broader public and to focus more on conservation, we do think it should be continued. **MONITOR**

### Senate Committee on Appropriations at 2:00 PM in SHR109

- [SB1377 off-highway vehicles; fund](#) (Kerr: Rogers) changes how the Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Fund is used and allocated. Says landowners and lessees don't have a duty to keep lands safe for use by recreational users or to warn people about unsafe conditions. What if the lessee actually created the unsafe conditions?
- [SB1522 appropriation; transportation infrastructure; Maricopa county](#) (Livingston: Gowan) appropriates funding for various road widening projects and additional bus service. **MONITOR**
- [SB1632 appropriation; land department; management system](#) (Kerr) appropriates \$225,000 and two staff to the Arizona State Land Department to improve the enterprise-wide management system. **MONITOR**

### House Committee on Commerce at 2:00 P.M. in HHR3

- [HB2674 municipal zoning; by right housing](#) (Kaiser: Chavez) preempts zoning and land use restrictions for most single- and multi-family construction. Makes cities' general plans meaningless. It also prohibits energy conservation requirements for residential construction unless the city or town shows clear and convincing evidence that the energy savings within five years will exceed the cost of the requirements. **OPPOSE**

### Wednesday, February 9th

### Environmental Day at the Capitol! 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

### House Committee on Judiciary at 8:00 a.m. in HHR4

- [HB2253 asbestos claims; required information; liability](#) (Grantham) seeks to limit asbestos claims. That is just wrong. **OPPOSE**
- [HB2621 consent decree; prohibited](#) (Parker: Blackman, Carter, et al.) prohibits consent decrees related to elections. This is likely targeting the secretary of state's office and seems unreasonable.

### House Committee on Government & Elections at 9:00 AM in HHR1

- [HB2131 HOAs; artificial grass ban prohibited](#) (Kavanagh) prohibits a homeowners association (HOA) that allows grass from prohibiting artificial grass. This can help limit water use on landscaping. **SUPPORT**
- [HB2378 election lawsuits; settlements; approvals](#) (Bolick) prohibits the secretary of state from settling lawsuits that affect county recorders without involving the county recorder that is affected. **MONITOR**
- [HB2389 rulemaking review; time frame](#) (Dunn) eliminates the requirement that agencies certify that they provided the public with an opportunity to comment when they submit a rulemaking package. **OPPOSE**
- [HB2492 voter registration; verification; citizenship](#) (Hoffman: Blackman, Carter, et al.) requires proof of citizenship, location, etc. for registering to vote. **OPPOSE**
- [HB2602 polling places; emergency voting centers](#) (Bolick: Biasiucci, Blackman, et al.) limits a county's ability to establish emergency voting centers. To do so, there must be a huge emergency such as war or civil unrest. This is ridiculous. **OPPOSE**
- [HB2617 voter registration; cancellations; causes](#) (Chaplik: Barton, Biasiucci, et al.) lays out additional requirements for cancelling voter registration, including finding out someone has a driver's license in another state. That seems weak as people sometimes take longer to change their licenses.
- [HCR2014 initiative; referendum; signatures; legislative districts](#) (Dunn) refers to the ballot a measure that would require collection of signatures from each legislative district proportionately. This would make it very difficult to get a measure on the ballot. **OPPOSE**

- [HCR2015 initiatives; supermajority vote; requirement](#) (Dunn: Biasiucci, Bolick et al.) refers to the ballot a measure to require 60 percent approval for any ballot measure. This is a high bar and would limit this important constitutional right. **OPPOSE**

### Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Energy, & Water at 2:00 PM in SHR109

- SB1147 Harquahala non-expansion area; groundwater transportation (Kerr) will have a strike-everything amendment on certified applicators; fingerprinting requirement. It has not been posted yet.
- SB1171 unlawful feeding; wildlife; exception (Gowan) will have a strike-everything amendment on treated process water; definitions. It is not posted yet.
- [SB1396 hydrogen study committee](#) (Shope) establishes a hydrogen study committee made up entirely of legislators. It includes studying a pipeline and blending hydrogen with fracked gas. There is no provision for studying green hydrogen -- hydrogen derived from water, not gas. There are also some other troubling provisions in it. **OPPOSE**
- [SB1443 solid waste; long-term care facilities](#) (Pace) prohibits a city from limiting private recycling for these facilities. **MONITOR**
- [SB1564 domestic water districts; wastewater; annexation](#) (Shope) says that a domestic water improvement district can continue to provide water to an area that has been annexed if the city does not. **MONITOR**
- [SCM1003 Grand Canyon; monuments; rename](#) (Boyer: Borrelli, Bowie, et al.) asks the Board on Geographic Names to rename geographic features in Grand Canyon with traditional Native American names. **SUPPORT**

### House Committee on Appropriations at 1:30 PM in HHR1

- [HB2538 water protection fund; appropriation](#) (Griffin) appropriates \$1 million to this fund, which can be used for a broad range of activities and is no longer as focused on riparian protection. **MONITOR**

### House Committee on Transportation at 2:00 PM in HHR3

- [HB2598 transportation tax; election; Maricopa county](#) (Carroll) requires Maricopa County to levy and the Arizona Department of Transportation to collect a transportation tax -- continues current tax. **MONITOR**.

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## Environmental Day at the Capitol February 9, 2022

This is the last chance to register for Environmental Day at the Capitol 2022 (our lobby day) on February 9th. This year's theme is **Act Now! There's a climate crisis.**

We are holding a hybrid event with both in-person and outdoors and virtual activities. We will also be asking everyone who participates in person to wear a mask. Indicate your preference for how you will participate when you register.

**Environmental Day at the Capitol  
Wednesday, February 9, 2022  
8:30 AM to 2:00 PM**

To register for Environmental Day at the Capitol, [use this link](#). Thank you!

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