



Arizona Moves Out of the 19th Century with Vote to reverse Abortion Ban



Senate vote on the repeal of the 1864 Abortion Ban

May 4, 2024

Hi all!

This week at the Legislature, the action was in the Senate and it focused on the repeal of the Civil War-era abortion ban. After many hours of vote explanation and with the usual suspects -- Senator Hoffman and Senator Kern -- being as nasty as possible, they passed the bill and sent it to the Governor to sign on Thursday. The House is adjourned for two weeks and will be

back on May 15th. The Senate will meet on May 8th.

In addition to signing the bill to repeal the 1864 abortion ban, the Governor vetoed three more harmful energy and water bills, including HB2063, HB2124, and HB2591.

HB2063 exempt wells; certificate; groundwater use (Griffin) would have required the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) to issue a certificate of water rights to those with exempt wells (35 gallons per minute or less) that register with the well with ADWR. This would have served to increase rather than decrease pumping.

HB2124 agricultural operations; water; protection; definition (Smith) would have required the court to award attorneys' fees for nuisance claims related to groundwater pumping. This was another bill to protect big pumpers at the expense of those harmed who may have few tools available to them to challenge the pumping.

HB2591 forced labor; child labor; prohibitions (Biasiucci: Dunn, Kolodin, et al.) would have prohibited public power entities, public service corporations, and public entities from engaging in or renewing contracts to procure land, electric vehicles, utility scale batteries, or solar panels from individuals or businesses employing forced labor or oppressive child labor. The bill also mandates that automobile manufacturers furnish certification ensuring compliance with these standards for contracts involving electric vehicles and associated components. While we support prohibiting all of those activities, this is better addressed federally for all products. This bill singles out a few.

Please call the Governor at 602-542-4331 to say thank you to her for vetoing these bills.

If you have not created an account on the [Request to Speak system](#), I encourage you to do so. If you need it activated, please let us know. We can help you out. Also, Civic Engagement Beyond Voting has a training and can also help you get signed up for this system. [Find more information here.](#)

Sign in on Request to Speak to oppose HCR2060!

You can see more bills we are tracking [here](#).

You can find contact information for all legislators [here](#).

For more information on these and other bills, reach out to Sandy Bahr at sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org.

Thank you!

All the best,



Sandy Bahr
Chapter Director
Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter

Coming Up This Week at the Legislature!



Wednesday, May 8th

Senate Military Affairs, Public Safety, & Border Security Committee at 1:00 PM in SHR2
[Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting here.](#)

- HCR2060 lawful presence; e-verify program; penalties (Toma) will have a strike-everything amendment on border security. This will replace the old measure with a new one. It is not posted yet, but we know it will be bad and will focus on more xenophobic policy. **OPPOSE**

Take Action to Oppose Resolution Copper Water Permit



Oak Flat support sign hung by climbers

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has released a Public Notice that it intends to issue an Individual Industrial Recycled Water Permit to Resolution Copper Mining. The permit would allow Resolution Copper to deliver water obtained from the dewatering of their mine facilities at Oak Flat and near Superior to the New Magma Irrigation and Drainage District where it would be mixed with water coming from the Colorado River via the Central Arizona Project (CAP) canal and used for irrigation.

Allowing Resolution Copper to pump the water out of the mine shaft and mix it with CAP water to irrigate crops and doing so under weak permitting, is just one more way this mine is harming the region.

Please sign on to this petition asking ADEQ to reject this permit renewal.
We will deliver the petition to ADEQ on May 7th.

Take Action!

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Sierra Club Grand Canyon Chapter