



As Bills Move to the Floor, Call and Email your Legislators!



February 18, 2022

Hi everyone!

Phew! What a week! As you know the agendas were long this past week and were filled with troubling legislation and strike-everything amendments. Legislators advanced a number of bills to hinder voting and ballot measures, and even are seeking to make it more difficult to register people to vote.

In the bad news/good news category, two bills to advance electric vehicles, SB1152 and SB1154 failed in the Senate 14-14. The good news is they will be reconsidered and should pass as there were a couple of people who would vote yes missing. [SB1152 zero emission vehicles; plans](#) (Steele) requires coordination by the Arizona Department of Transportation, Arizona Department of Administration, and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, to develop a zero emissions vehicle (ZEV) Plan that will increase the number of ZEV vehicles. [SB1154 transportation electrification study committee](#) (Steele) establishes a study committee to review laws and consider ways to promote EVs and to collaborate with local governments, electric utilities, environmental groups, the transportation industry and interested communities to identify the best ways to encourage an economy-wide transition from carbon-fueled vehicles to EVs. **Ask your senator to support both bills.**

Next week, only the Rules and Appropriations committees are meeting, so much of the activity will be on the floor of the House and Senate.

Ask your House members 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. There is still a chance to stop this bill. Use the link below to send a message to your representatives.

[Take Action on HB2055!](#)

[HB2101 electric energy; reliability; public policy](#) (Griffin: Abraham, Blackman, et al.) failed on the House floor, but will be reconsidered. Its twin, SB1631, passed out of the Senate Natural Resources, Energy, and Water Committee 5-4, along party lines. These bills repeal provisions in the law that create parameters for retail competition of electricity. We are still opposed as we have concerns about how it will affect community choice aggregation of electricity overall and rooftop solar in SRP territory. **Let your legislators know you have concerns about these bills too.**

Please call and ask your representatives to oppose [HB2536 corporation commissioners; qualifications](#) (Griffin). It requires corporation commissioners to be at least 30 years old and have five years experience in business, accounting, finance, economics, administrative law, or professional engineering. This would disqualify a lot of people who have been or would be excellent commissioners. It was retained on the Committee of the Whole calendar this week, so will likely be back on the calendar early next week.

[HB2492 voter registration; verification; citizenship](#) (Hoffman: Blackman, Carter, et al.) erects barriers to voter registration and confusing requirements for county recorders to follow. It could go to the floor in the House next week. **Ask your representatives to vote NO!**

Help stop attacks on ballot measures! [Send a message to your Senator here.](#) [Send a message to your Representatives here.](#)

It appears that the [Request to Speak System](#) has been fixed, so signing in on bills should be easier this week. Civic Engagement Beyond Voting (CEBV) is graciously volunteering to sign you up for the Request to Speak system if you have not done so already. 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: HB2726, HB2728, and SB1571.

Sign in to support SB1151. See the details on the bills below under "Coming Up at the Arizona Legislature this Week."

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

To find your legislators' email addresses and phone numbers, [go here](#).

If you want to learn more about how a bill becomes a law, check out this [Zine by the Arizona Agenda](#).

Thank you for calling and emailing your legislators!

All the best,



Sandy Bahr
Chapter Director
Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter



Coming Up at the Arizona Legislature this Week.

Monday, February 21st

Happy President's Day!

House Committee on Appropriations at 2:00 PM in SHR109

- [HB2674 S/E: housing supply study committee](#) establishes a study committee to look at housing supplies. There is no one on it who represents affordable housing interests, quite sadly, and mostly includes the people who have created the current lack of affordable housing. It is, however, much better than the underlying bill.
- [HB2726 S/E: ballot fraud countermeasures; ink; paper](#) requires holograms, specific paper, ink, etc. for ballots. This is more of the big lie nonsense from 2020. This would make the election nearly impossible and unwieldy to conduct. **OPPOSE**
- [HB2728 appropriations; ADOT; tier 2 studies](#) (Wilmeth) appropriates \$25 million for the Tier 2 study of I-11 in Maricopa County. We are very much opposed to this harmful freeway, so oppose spending more on studies to accommodate it. **OPPOSE**
- [HB2789 Arizona trail; fund; purpose](#) (Diaz: Biasiucci, Blackman, et al) authorizes Arizona Trail Fund to be used for constructing, maintaining and improving water sources, signs, gates and public access. This seems like it is probably okay.

Tuesday, February 22nd

Senate Committee on Appropriations at 9:00 AM in SHR109

- [SB1151 charging station; pilot program; appropriation](#) (Steele: Jermaine) appropriates \$500,000 for a pilot program for charging stations administered by ADOA that allows state agencies to apply for funding to cover the costs of installing charging stations. This is a two-year pilot. **SUPPORT**
- [SB1181 S/E Cottonwood; infrastructure; appropriation](#) appropriates \$6,142,800 to the Arizona Department of Transportation to distribute to the City of Cottonwood to construct and improve former SR-279.
- [SB1458 S/E elections](#) prohibits early ballots from being tallied prior to election day.
- [SB1571 ballot drop boxes; surveillance; appropriation](#) (Townsend) prohibits voted early

ballots from being returned by mail. Outlines requirements for ballot drop-boxes, including a monitoring camera. This is ridiculous. **OPPOSE**

- [SB1634 S/E affordable housing; municipalities](#) requires a municipality with a population of more than 100,000 persons to develop at least 4 out of list of 22 strategies to incentivize affordable housing. How about just requiring developers to provide affordable housing?
- [SB1652 appropriation; Jackrabbit Trail improvement](#) (Kerr: Dunn, Osborne) appropriates \$22,600,000 to the Arizona Department of Transportation to distribute to the city of Buckeye to improve Jackrabbit Trail between Thomas Road and McDowell Road.

