



Arizona Legislative Updates



Committees are done, but there are plenty of actions to take



PHOTO BY: AMY S MARTIN

Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument was established last year after 14 Tribes requested it. Now, some in the Arizona Legislature would like to see the monument rescinded, including the Speaker of the House and the Senate President. Take action on it below.

March 30, 2024

Hi all!

The committees are done, except for the budget hearings -- whenever those might be -- Rules, and Senate committee confirmation hearings. This means we know the universe of bills remaining. For a lot of the environmental bills, it looks like it will be mostly party line votes and, we hope, a veto by the Governor. Sadly, there are few positive bills moving. Legislators never heard bills to advance environmental justice, bills to limit groundwater pumping, bills to protect rivers and streams, bills to help address climate change, and bills to protect our air and water.

Rumor has it that the legislature may adjourn for a week or two if there is no progress with budget talks. That could happen as early as the end of next week.

As we have indicated previously, our key concerns at this point in the session are measures that bypass the Governor and go directly to the ballot. There are several of those outstanding, including [HCR2032 voting centers; precinct voting](#) (Jones: B Parker, Smith, et al.). It would put a measure on the 2024 ballot that prohibits boards of supervisors from establishing voting centers to accommodate additional voting for a specific election as needed. It also eliminates no-excuse mail-in voting, limiting a method of voting used by 80% of Arizonans. If approved, this would result in lower voter turnout.

[HCR2058 legislative districts; population; census; citizenship](#) (Heap: Chaplik, Gillette, et al) would put a measure on the 2024 ballot to require a state census that the Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) must use to determine legislative districts based on citizenship population. This is a direct attack on the IRC and would subvert US census data to dilute and attack communities. If successfully referred and approved, it would impact minority districts disproportionately.

Call your senator and ask them to vote no on HCR2032 and HCR2058!
[You can find numbers for senators here.](#)

[HCR2040 public monies; prohibited expenditures](#) (Smith: Biasiucci, Carbone, et al.) is another one of those referrals. It would place a measure on the 2024 ballot to prohibit the state or any political subdivision, including universities, to spend any public dollars to reduce global temperatures, have a climate action plan, participate in anything related to reducing meat consumption, etc. It wraps this up with a bow related to prohibiting "furthering Marxist ideologies." It is clearly intended to connect all of these issues and motivate voters who fear that there is a vast conspiracy to make this a better world.

[Tell your senator to vote no on HCR2040!](#)

Act on HCR2040!

Also on the list of bad referrals is [HCR2050 energy source; restriction; prohibition](#) (Griffin: Biasiucci, Bliss, et al). It awaits action in the Senate Rules Committee and we've heard it may be amended. HCR2050 would put on the 2024 ballot a proposed constitutional amendment to prohibit a city, town, county or any other political subdivision of the state from restricting the manufacture, use or sale of a device based on the energy source that is either used to power the device or consumed by the device. Device is not defined, but this is clearly intended to preclude any limits on fossil fuel "devices," including gas. This will make it harder to protect our air, our water, our health, and our communities.

[Please send a message to your senator asking them to oppose HCR2050.](#)

OPPOSE HCR 2050

AZ, any city, town, county, political subdivision, or public body would be **prohibited from restricting the manufacture, sale, or use of a device based on the energy source it uses.**

We can't limit products that use harmful energy!



We can't fight:

- **air pollution & its lethal health effects** caused by burning gas, propane, coal, wood, etc.
- **extreme weather & drought** caused by climate change
- **deforestation, land degradation, & biodiversity loss** caused by making biofuels and fossil fuels
- **environmental racism:** disproportionate negative impacts on people of color caused by environmentally destructive practices
- **the continual protection of the fossil fuel industry** funded by billions of taxpayer dollars

https://www.eesi.org/files/FactSheet_Fossil_Fuel_Subsidies_2024.pdf
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/mrs-energy-and-sustainability/article/social-and-economic-consequences-of-the-fossil-fuel-supply-chain/181CB4D021BA549E64D87B667D3FB987>

Tell Senators to Oppose HCR2050!

Help
PROTECT
AZ Public Lands!



Ask your AZ senators to oppose harmful bills
and support Public Lands and protection of Indigenous
cultural and ecological resources

Take Action Today!
bit.ly/AZPublicLands2024

In addition to the referrals, the Arizona Legislature is advancing bills and memorials (messages) that seek to weaken or remove protections for public lands. Several of the memorials are up on the Senate floor on Monday, so please send a message asking them to vote no on these bad messages to Congress.

Take Action to Protect Public Lands!



This last one is also not a referral, but it is important that legislators know it is unacceptable. Please take action and tell your representatives to oppose SB1221. It sets up an impossible process for establishing basin management areas and codifies current overpumping of rural groundwater.

[Learn more and take action here.](#)

Act to Protect Rural Groundwater!

There are no bills for Request to Speak this week.

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.

Many thanks for taking action!

All the best,



Sandy Bahr
Chapter Director
Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter

Coming Up This Week at the AZ Legislature



Historic Capitol courtesy of Sandy Bahr

Monday, April 1st

House and Senate Rules Committee at 1:00 PM

Most of the week will involve action on the Senate and House Floor.

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