



## State of the State, Bills, Committee Meetings, & More!



January 8, 2021

Hi everyone!

On Monday, Arizona legislators will be sworn in, the Governor will deliver his State of State address, and then the 2021 session will be off and running, sort of. The state of the state is just not good -- COVID is raging and sadly we have legislators who participated in the mayhem in DC and at our own Capitol this week and continue to defend and excuse the indefensible and inexcusable. (Shout out to Congressman Ruben Gallego for helping during a tough time in the nation's Capitol and speaking up for democracy.)

There are only a few committee hearings scheduled at the Arizona Legislature this week and just a few bills we are monitoring on agendas. If you are new to these updates, we try to encourage people to sign up for the request to speak system each week on bills we are supporting or opposing and that are scheduled for committee. While it is called the [Request to Speak](#) system, you do not have to speak, you can register your support of or opposition to bills while they are in committee. You can also use it to request to speak, however.

Log in or sign up for [Request to Speak](#). If you had an account previously, it is still active. You can request a new password if you forgot it. If you do not have an account, go ahead and set one up, but we will have to help you connect with folks who can activate it for you, which sadly requires actually going to the Capitol. Contact me directly about that.

For people who would like to speak remotely in committee hearings, I have included instructions on how to sign up to speak in the Senate and the House right after the Committee information below.

See below for details on committee hearings and about Environmental Day at the Capitol and the workshops.

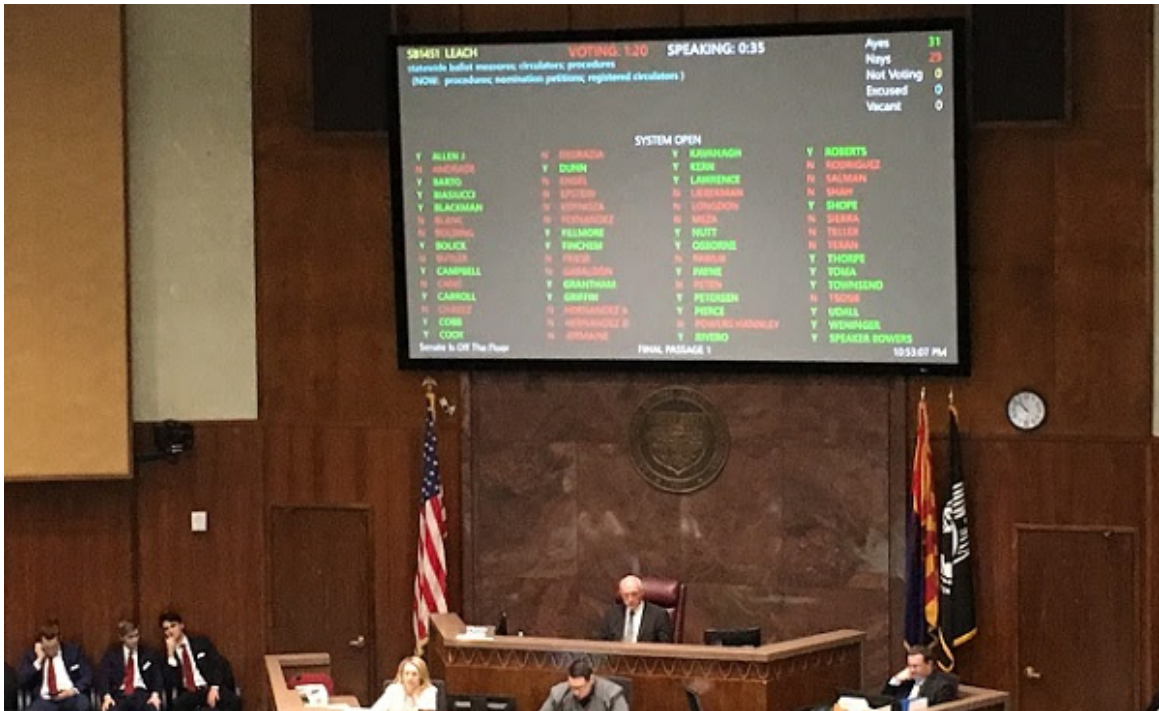
We usually include an action alert on a bill too, but this week, please take action with another government entity, the Arizona Corporation Commission. Later this month, it will be taking public comment on important clean energy rules. [Learn more about the rules, send a message, and RSVP to provide public comment here.](#)

If you want to get rolling with contacting your legislators, but are not sure who your legislators are, just use this [Find My Legislator link](#) and enter your address. To contact legislators, go to [Members](#). You will find their phone numbers and email addresses.

Be well and take care.



Sandy Bahr  
Chapter Director  
Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter



## Coming Up This Week At The Legislature

### Monday, January 11th

10:00 AM - State of the State Address online

### Tuesday, January 12th

House & Senate Committees on Natural Resources, Energy, & Water at 10:00 AM in SHR109

- Sunset Review of the Arizona Department of Agriculture

### [House Committee on Natural Resources, Energy, & Water at 2:00 PM in HHR5](#)

- [HB2033 state mine inspector; qualifications](#) (Griffin) changes the qualifications of the state mine inspector to include eight years of experience, four of which have to be in Arizona and requires that they know something about health and safety. We are just monitoring this bill.
- [HB2034 noxious weeds; government projects](#) (Griffin) allows the state to remove noxious weeds from state property and forbids using them in landscaping. This bill is curious as the state can already remove noxious weeds. Again, we are just monitoring this.

**Wednesday January 13th****[Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Energy, and Water at 2:00 PM in SHR109](#)**

- [SB1021 groundwater; waterlogged area exemption; date](#) (Kerr) extends the date for exempting waterlogged groundwater areas from the limits on groundwater pumping. We are just monitoring this.
- [SB1065 state lands; partial tracts; patents](#) (Kerr) removes limits on patenting partial tracts of state lands. We are monitoring this.

**[House Committee on Transportation at 2:00 PM in HHR3](#)**

- AZ Department of Transportation Presentation on the Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF)

\*In accordance with Senate Rule 26(A), any person desiring to be heard concerning legislation remotely shall email that request to ([SenateNREW@azleg.gov](mailto:SenateNREW@azleg.gov)) at least 24 hours, excluding weekends and holidays, in advance of committee. The request must state the bill the person desires to present arguments upon, and whom the person represents. Timely requests will receive a response that includes meeting access information to participate in the committee remotely. Sharing meeting access information with unauthorized users may result in being prohibited to participate remotely in future legislative hearings. The request to participate remotely via teleconference shall be in addition to requesting to speak via the RTS system (<https://apps.azleg.gov/requesttospeak/topicsearch>). Persons desiring to testify remotely shall indicate that the participation is remote within the comments of the RTS system.

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## 2021 Virtual Environmental Day at the Capitol and Workshops

Environmental Day  
February 3, 2021  
8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.  
Participate for all or part of it.

RSVP for Environmental Day

On Environmental Day, join hundreds of advocates from throughout Arizona in meeting with state legislators to promote environmental protection and justice, climate action, lands and wildlife conservation, flowing rivers, democracy, and more, as well as to lobby on specific bills. We will also host a series of workshops to help you prepare and each group will have a team leader for their meetings with legislators. Due to COVID-19, our 2021 lobby day and all workshops leading up to it will be virtual as we put the health of participants and communities first. Here is a list of the workshops so far. We are still finalizing several.

- **Jan 12<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm - Ecological Water: Kris Wolfe** – [RSVP here.](#)
- **Jan 15<sup>th</sup> noon – Climate Justice Action needed at the AZ Legislature: Columba Sainz** – Spanish/English – [RSVP here.](#)

- **Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> noon – Wildlife, Wolves, & AZ Game and Fish: Roz Switzer – [RSVP here.](#)**
- **January 26<sup>th</sup> Noon – Arizona State Parks Heritage Fund: Arizona Heritage Alliance – [RSVP here.](#)**
- **January 28<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm – Volunteer Lobby Workshop: Sandy Bahr – [RSVP here.](#)**
- **January 29<sup>th</sup> Noon – Democracy: Voting and Ballot Measure Rights: LUCHA, AZ Advocacy Network, Progress Arizona - Details to follow.**
- **January 29<sup>th</sup> 6pm – Issues briefing on Environmental Day bills: Sandy Bahr – [RSVP here.](#)**

Our keynote speaker on Environmental Day is Tucson Mayor, Regina Romero. Don't miss it!

Environmental Day at the Capitol is a coalition event involving more than 20 organizations and schools. [RSVP here.](#)

**For more information and to get involved, contact Sandy Bahr at (602) 999-5790 or [sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org](mailto:sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org).**



Roadrunner photo by Ricardo Small

