



March for Clean Air and Last Week for most Committees!

MARCH FOR CLEAN AIR

ARIZONA STATE CAPITOL BUILDING
1700 W WASHINGTON ST, PHOENIX, AZ 85007

Monday, March 20th

5:30pm MT

MOMS clean air FORCE | CLIMATE ACTION CAMPAIGN | PODER LATINO | CHISPA | SIERRA CLUB GRAND CANYON | EDF ACTION | ARIZONA INTERFAITH POWER AND LIGHT

The poster features a central illustration of four hands holding up a sign, with a sun and clouds in the background. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout with clear event details and a row of partner logos at the bottom.

March 18, 2023

Hi all!

Join us on Monday at 5:30 PM for a short march for clean air at the Capitol. See details below.

This week, 24 organizations sent a letter to Speaker of the House Ben Toma asking him to address the bullying and hostile behavior of some of the representatives in committee. This behavior has resulted in many people not coming back to the Legislature to engage in this important democratic process. We hope we will see more civil behavior from these elected officials going forward.

Don't forget to both sign in against bills on the Request to Speak System, but to also use the links provided to send a message to your own legislators. If you find that the links are not going to the proper legislators, please let me know right away. We have found a few errors with the new legislative districts. Thank you!

Two bills to cut the public out of the process for certain transmission lines will likely go to the floor of the Senate soon.

[HB2437 transmission lines; applications; exceptions](#) (Griffin) exempts a transmission line that is entirely on private land from being required to obtain a certificate of environmental compatibility from the Arizona Power Plant and Line Siting Committee, so there would be no environmental review.

[HB2496 transmission lines; definition](#) (Griffin) changes the definition of a transmission line to include only those lines that are one mile or longer. This means the siting of the lines that are less than one mile would have no review by the Arizona Power Plant and Line Siting Committee. We tried to get this amended to address our concerns, to provide a way to trigger review, but the bill sponsor would not even consider it.

[Please contact your senator and ask them to oppose both HB2437 and HB2496!](#)

The majority at the Arizona Legislature is actively working to undermine efforts to reduce traffic and support for public transportation and accommodation of bicyclists and pedestrians. This, despite the fact that reducing traffic and investing in programs for bikes and pedestrians helps clean up our air and make our communities safer.

[Please contact your representatives ask them to oppose SB1312, SB1313, SB1314, and SCR1018](#), all of which seek to in some way make it more difficult to reduce vehicle miles traveled and provide more support for other types of transportation.

Take Action!

If you have not signed up yet for the Request to Speak system to voice your position in support or opposition to bills, we encourage you to do so now as you will need to get the account activated at the Capitol. [Here is a link for signing up](#). To learn more about how to use the Request to Speak System, you can sign up for one of the trainings sponsored by Civic Engagement Beyond Voting. [Here is their sign-up link](#).

Please sign in on the Request to Speak system to OPPOSE HB2143, HB2254, HB2319, HB2415, HB2442, HB2444, HB2552, HB2591, HB2613, HCR2033, HCM2002, HCM2003, HCM2004, SB1095, SB1100, SB1139, SB1143, SB1144, SB1170, SB1175, SB1255, SB1500, SB1595, SB1597, and SCR1023 and SUPPORT HB2438.

To review bills we are tracking, [go to this link](#).

For more information, reach out to Sandy Bahr at sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org.

Many thanks for taking action on these bills and all that you do to make a better Arizona!

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, March 20th

Senate Committee on Director Nominations at 9:30 AM in SHR109

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting [here](#).

- Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management - Thomas Arthur Torres, State Forester

House Committee on Land, Agriculture, and Rural Affairs at 2:00 PM in HHR3

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting [here](#).

- [SB1115 land sales; foreign entities; prohibition](#) (Kern) prohibits selling state lands to foreign entities. This really is not the solution to the problem with groundwater pumping on state trust lands. We need limits on everyone, not just bar certain entities from buying them. **MONITOR**

Senate Committee on Elections at 2:00 PM in SHR1

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting [here](#).

- [HB2078 counties; elections; state audits](#) (Diaz, Marshall, Pena) allows candidates and certain party officials to request an explanation from a county recorder or regarding certain actions or irregularities that appear to violate statute. **MONITOR**
- [HB2319 elections; rule of construction](#) (Kolodin: Bliss, Carter, et al.) says the Legislature finds that public confidence in elections is best maintained by maximizing transparency and providing a rule of construction for interpreting statute relating to the conduct of elections. It says that court decisions do not have precedent relative to elections. Can you really do that? **OPPOSE**
- [HB2415 active early voting lists; removal](#) (Biasiucci: Bliss, Carbone, et al.) removes voters from the active early voting list if they do not vote in one election cycle. This would result in purging a lot of voters from the list. **OPPOSE**
- [HB2552 voting; elections; tally; prohibition](#) (Smith: Biasiucci, Bliss, et al.) prohibits ranked choice voting for the state, cities, counties, etc. **OPPOSE**
- [HB2591 elections; early ballot drop boxes](#) (Griffin) says early ballot drop boxes can only be used Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and to include a camera or video recorder. This is unnecessary and will limit opportunities for voting. **OPPOSE**
- [HB2613 voting equipment; requirements; origin](#) (Montenegro) prohibits the Secretary of State from certifying a voting machine unless 100 percent of the machine's components are from the United States. This would mean they use no voting machines. **OPPOSE**
- [HCR2033 primary elections; eligible candidates](#) (Smith: Chaplik, Heap, etc.) refers to the ballot a measure that says a Legislature-enacted direct primary election law supersedes any contrary or inconsistent provision of any charter, law, ordinance, rule, resolution or policy of any city. This is to preempt local election provisions. **OPPOSE**

March for Clean Air at 5:30 PM on the House Lawn and around the Capitol
[RSVP here](#)

Tuesday, March 21st

House Committee on Commerce at 2:00 PM in HHR3

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting [here](#).

- [SB1188 technical correction; nonprobate transfers \(NOW: regulation; permissible consumer fireworks\)](#) (Mesnard) changes the dates for when cities can't prohibit fireworks to December 26 through January 4. They really should just prohibit fireworks altogether. **MONITOR**

House Committee on Natural Resources, Energy, and Water - Not Meeting

Wednesday, March 22nd

Senate Committee on Government at 8:30 AM in SHR2

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting [here](#).

- [HB2254 rulemaking; regulatory costs; legislative ratification](#) (Wilmeth) requires a proposed rule that increases regulatory costs in excess of \$500,000 within two years after implementation to be ratified by the Legislature. It does not say how the costs will be determined and it appears to be a way to shut down efforts by the governor. **OPPOSE**
- [HB2438 board of supervisors; powers; water](#) (Griffin) authorizes a county to participate in water reuse and recycling programs and regional wastewater recharge projects and related infrastructure. **SUPPORT**
- [HB2547 zoning ordinances; property rights; costs](#) (Toma) requires the cities to consider a housing impact statement before adopting any zoning ordinance or zoning ordinance text amendment. **MONITOR**

House Committee on Government at 9:00 AM in HHR3

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting [here](#).

- [SB1131 technical correction; prepaid legal insurance \(NOW: property rights; zoning ordinances; costs\)](#) (Petersen) requires the cities to consider a housing impact statement before adopting any zoning ordinance or zoning ordinance text amendment. **MONITOR**
- [SB1139 government investments; products; fiduciaries; plan](#) (Hoffman: Borrelli, Kern, et al.) requires a fiduciary to take into account only pecuniary factors when evaluating an investment and prescribes requirements and prohibits consideration of environmental and social factors by the State Treasurer investments. **OPPOSE**
- [SB1255 regulatory costs; rulemaking; ratification](#) (Kern: Smith) requires a proposed rule that increases regulatory costs in excess of \$500,000 within two years after implementation to be ratified by the Legislature. It does not say how the costs will be determined and it appears to be a way to shut down efforts by the governor. **OPPOSE**
- [SB1500 government investments; fiduciaries; pecuniary benefit](#) (Carroll: Bennett, Gowan, et al.) is the same as SB1139. **OPPOSE**
- [SCR1023 charter cities; repeal](#) (Wadsack: Jones) refers to the ballot a measure to repeal provisions in the constitution that allow for charter cities, which would really affect local planning for climate and other environmental protections. **OPPOSE**

House Committee on Municipal Oversight and Elections at 2:00 PM in HHR4

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting [here](#).

- [SB1095 early ballot envelope; notice](#) (Carroll: Gowan: Livingston) requires an early ballot envelope to include a statement that says the election will be delayed if you return your ballot after the Friday before the election, which could discourage people returning early ballots. **OPPOSE**
- [SB1140 elections; voting centers prohibited \(NOW: elections; voting centers; polling places\)](#) (Hoffman: Borrelli, Farnsworth, et al.) was modified to remove the prohibition

- on voting centers, just says that counties can't use them in lieu of a polling place in the district. It requires schools to close on Primary and General Election Day. **MONITOR**
- [SB1143 voting registrations; ballot requests; source](#) (Hoffman: Farnsworth, Kern, et al.) limits distribution of early voting requests among other things. **OPPOSE**
 - [SB1144 electronic ballot adjudication; prohibition](#) (Hoffman: Farnsworth, Kern, et al.) prohibits the electronic adjudication of ballots. **OPPOSE**
 - [SB1170 ballot drop boxes; prohibition \(NOW: ballot drop boxes; requirements; appropriation\)](#) (Hoffman: Borrelli, Farnsworth, et al.) prohibits unmonitored drop boxes. **OPPOSE**
 - [SB1175 registrations; observers; counting procedures; verification](#) (Kavanagh) expands access to precinct registers and information from voter registration forms and outlines procedures for a hand count audit if a political party provides an insufficient number of board workers to conduct the hand count audit. **OPPOSE**
 - [SB1273 early ballot delivery; instruction requirements](#) (Bennett) requires that a statement relating to ballot abuse be included in the early ballot affidavit instructions and voter guidance instructions. **MONITOR**
 - [SB1471 ballot tabulation; hand count comparison](#) (Kavanagh) requires county recorders in larger counties to randomly select 400 ballots and recount all races. **MONITOR**
 - [SB1595 early ballots; identification; tabulation](#) (Mesnard: Bennett, Carroll, et al.) requires voters to present valid identification after an election for a ballot that was delivered by a voter's agents or a voter who does not provide sufficient identification. **OPPOSE**
 - [SB1597 early ballot on-site tabulation; requirement](#) (Mesnard) requires larger counties to provide voters early ballot onsite tabulation by the 2024 election. This will increase the burden on already overburdened elections workers. **OPPOSE**

House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure at 2:00 PM in HHR3
Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting [here](#).

- [SB1100 all-terrain vehicles; definition](#) (Carroll: Gowan, Shamp, et al.) defines ATVs as being much heavier, increases the definitional weight from 2500 pounds to 3500 pounds. These heavier vehicles do a lot more damage to roads and the land. **OPPOSE**

Thursday, March 23rd

Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Energy, and Water at 9:30 AM in SHR2
Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting [here](#).

- [HB2143 rulemaking review; time frame](#) (Dunn) modifies the time a state agency has to review, and correct, a rule if granted a onetime rulemaking exemption from one year to six months and includes a repeal of reporting that they provided opportunity for the public to comment. **OPPOSE**
- [HB2442 temporary non-expansion area](#) (Griffin) allows for establishment of temporary non-expansion areas that would limit new irrigated agriculture, but that would expire after five years. We don't need temporary measures that create the illusion that we are really doing something to address the serious groundwater issues we have. **OPPOSE**
- [HB2444 natural resource conservation districts; revisions](#) (Griffin) establishes a Natural Resource Conservation District Commission and sets up a whole system for them to get more money. Most of these entities represent industrial agriculture and oppose environmental protection. **OPPOSE**
- [HB2644 appropriation; wolf depredation investigator](#) (Cook: Smith) appropriates \$193,787 for an employee at the Department of Agriculture with relevant qualifications and experience to investigate wolf depredation on livestock. This bill is improved, but we are still not supportive of this program.
- [HCM2002 federal lands; housing shortage](#) (Griffin) sends a message to Congress seeking to open up more public land to development. **OPPOSE**
- [HCM2003 technical correction; urging the president \(Now: critical minerals; copper; urging inclusion\)](#) (Griffin) asks the US Geological Survey to include copper on the list of

critical minerals. This is part of an effort to bump up the price of copper and promote harmful projects like Resolution Copper's proposal to destroy Oak Flat. **OPPOSE**

- [HCM2004 urging Congress; national forest health](#) (Griffin) has a lot of misinformation about national forests and asks Congress to change the management. **OPPOSE**



photo courtesy of US Fish and Wildlife Service

