



**It's the time of the Session for Strikers!**



March 25, 2023

Hi all!

Well, I know I told you in our last update that last week was the last week to hear bills in the standing committees. It was not. Legislators extended the deadline for hearing bills in committee until March 31st, What does that mean? Very full agendas for this next week and a bunch of strike-everything amendments where they replace the underlying bill with a brand new bill but keep the number. This is super confusing for the public and is frequently used for controversial bills.

One of the strike-everything amendments up next week is on SB1278 and it will be heard in the Health and Human Services Committee on Monday, March 27th at 2:00 pm. The [strike-everything amendment](#) would take away local control on home appliances and limit local

leaders' ability to establish local building code provisions related to affordability, energy, and public health.

This strike-everything amendment could also have long-lasting effects on health and safety regulations in International Codes related to hazardous chemicals, fire, plumbing, and water. If this striker is passed, it will also thwart local government decision-making related to appliances, zoning, building energy codes, and possibly affordable housing policies.

**Please help stop this bad striker by signing in on the Request to Speak system against SB1278, calling committee members and asking them to vote no on SB1278, and showing up, if you can, to speak out against this. [Find details on how to take all of these actions here.](#)**

**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. Thank you!

Please continue to weigh in against these harmful transmission siting bills.

[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.

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

Also, keep up the pressure to oppose bills that undermine efforts to reduce traffic and support for public transportation and accommodation of bicyclists and pedestrians.

**[Please contact your representatives and ask them to oppose SB1312, SB1313, SB1314, and SCR1018.](#)**

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Take Action!

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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 SB1104, SB1135, SB1144, SB1265, SB1278, SB1332, SB1471, SB1611, SB1694, SCR1002, SCR1023, HB2305, HB2411, HB2618, HB2644, HB2722, and HCM2008 and SUPPORT SB1340, SB1392, SB1432, SB1660, SB1714, HB2669, and HB2806.**

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

**For more information, reach out to Sandy Bahr at [sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org](mailto:sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org).**

Many thanks for all that you do and please do come to the Capitol if you can.

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 27th

**House Committee on Health and Human Services at 2:00 PM in HHR4**  
Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting [here](#).

- SB1278 housing trust fund; rural areas (Shamp) has a [strike-everything amendment S/E: state preemption; appliances; restrictions; prohibitions](#) that will limit local control regarding health and safety for appliances. See above for details. **OPPOSE**

**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](#).

- [SB1714 appropriation; Arizona trail fund](#) (Gowan: Shamp, Shope) appropriates \$250,000 for the Arizona Trail. **SUPPORT**

**Senate Committee on Elections at 2:00 PM in SHR1**  
Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting [here](#).

- [HB2305 ballots; signature verification; observers](#) (McGarr: Biasiucci, Carter, et al.) requires a county recorder to allow representatives of the two largest political parties to observe each stage of the signature verification process for early, provisional and conditional provisional ballots. **OPPOSE**
- [HB2325 mail ballot elections; technical correction \(NOW: voting; procedures; electors in detention\)](#) (Kolodin: Harris, Heap, et al.) allows a voter in pretrial detention to make a request to have a ballot delivered to a jail for voting. This seems okay. **MONITOR**
- [HB2691 elections; ballot chain of custody](#) (Heap: Gillette, Jones, et al.) requires the county board of supervisors to provide a chain of custody record for every ballot. **MONITOR**
- [HB2722 elections; option; full hand count](#) (Griffin) allows a full hand count of ballots. **OPPOSE**

**Senate Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure at 2:00 PM in SHR2**  
Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting [here](#).

- [HB2449 appropriation; Pinal East-West Corridor](#) (Martinez: Cook) appropriates \$9.7 million for the West Pinal Parkway. **MONITOR**

## Tuesday, March 28th

### House Committee on Commerce at 2:00 PM in HHR3

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

- SB1161 probation; work time credits; reporting (Kaiser: Shamp) has a strike-everything amendment [S/E: affordable housing; development standards; report](#) that requires cities to allow by right the construction of low-income multi-family housing if it is within one-half mile of a light rail or streetcar stop and is in areas zoned for multi-family residential or mixed use. I did not see a definition of low-income housing, so that may be needed to make sure it actually is, but this is much better than the provisions in SB1117. **MONITOR**
- SB1163 bond or override; contracts; prohibition (Kaiser: Carroll, Farnsworth, et al) has a strike-everything amendment [S/E: municipal; zoning; housing assessment; report](#) prohibits cities from requiring larger lot sizes and certain minimum widths. **MONITOR**

### House Committee on Natural Resources, Energy, and Water at 2:00 PM in HHR1

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

- SB1104 procurement; information disclosure; bidders (Carroll: Gowan) has a strike-everything amendment on [S/E: corporation commission; electric generational resources](#) that seeks to pre-empt the renewable energy standard or any subsequent clean energy standard at the Arizona Corporation Commission by codifying a weak standard. We are opposed to this because the ACC is proper venue for establishing a clean energy standard as what is required or allowed has a significant impact on rates and ratemaking is within the exclusive purview of the ACC. We are also opposed to codifying a low weak standard. **OPPOSE**
- [SB1223, water infrastructure; commerce grant fund](#) (Shope) extends the start date for projects to be eligible for grants from the Water Infrastructure and Commerce Grant Fund and appropriates \$8 million for it from the general fund for it. **MONITOR**
- [SB1247 technical correction; waste; enforcement; venue\(now: recycling fund; appropriation\)](#) (Shope) appropriates \$2.5 million from the Recycling Fund to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to provide grants for recycling research, demonstration projects, new technologies, market development and source reduction studies. **MONITOR**
- SB1391 department of environmental quality; counsel (Kerr) has a strike everything amendment on [S/E: allocation; water quality fee fund](#) that appropriate \$9,060,000 from the Arizona Lottery to the water quality fee fund. Why they cannot just appropriate this from the general fund is beyond me. **MONITOR**
- [SB1432 assured water; small residential developments](#) (Wadsack: Jones) requires those seeking a building permit for six or more residences within an active management area in an unincorporated area of a county to demonstrate an assured water supply. This closes one loophole in these requirements. **SUPPORT**
- [SB1660 water; effluent; credits\(now: water; storage; effluent; credits\)](#) (Kerr: Kaiser, Dunn) allows certain industrial facilities to construct and operate an on-site wastewater treatment facility for wastewater, and store the water underground. They must get an aquifer protection permit and treat the water to drinking water standards and they must leave 25 percent of the water they store in the aquifer. **SUPPORT**

### Senate Committee on Appropriations at 2:00 PM in SHR109

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

- [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. **OPPOSE**

## Wednesday, March 29th

### Senate Committee on Government at 9:30 AM in SHR2

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

- HB2808 public records; time frame (Carbone: Biasiucci, Blattman, et al.) will have a strike-everything amendment on public records, but it is not posted yet.

### House Committee on Government at 10:00 AM in HHR3

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

- [SB1611 public entities; contracts; prohibition](#) (Kern) prohibits a public entity from requiring a company to implement an environmental, social or governance policy as a condition of a contract. **OPPOSE**
- [SB1694 public monies; ideology training; prohibition](#) (Hoffman: Borrelli, Kern, et al.) prohibits any public entity from requiring and spending public monies on a diversity, equity and inclusion program and allows an employee who is required to participate in the program to bring action against the public entity. **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](#).

- [SB1135 spoiled early ballots; election day](#) (Kavanagh) allows an early ballot to be exchanged by the voter by 7:00 p.m. on election day. Prohibits the state, a city, town, county or political subdivision from being a member of any multistate voter registration or voter registration list maintenance organization. **OPPOSE**
- [SB1144 electronic ballot adjudication; prohibition](#) (Hoffman: Farnsworth, Kern, et al.) prohibits the electronic adjudication of ballots. **OPPOSE**
- [SB1265 voting; elections; tally; prohibition](#) (Kern: Mesnard, Rogers, et al.) prohibits ranked choice voting. **OPPOSE**
- [SB1332 cast vote record; public records](#) (Shamp: Wadsack) states that a cast vote record for an election is a public record. **OPPOSE**
- [SB1471 ballot tabulation; hand count comparison](#) (Kavanagh) requires Maricopa, Pima and Pinal counties to conduct a limited hand count of ballots cast in the 2022 general election and determine the number of persons working 16 hours each day would be required to hand count all ballots cast in the election. **OPPOSE**
- [SCR1002 constitutional amendments; sixty percent approval](#) (Kern) refers to the ballot a proposed constitutional amendment to require sixty percent approval for any proposed constitutional amendment. This one, however, would just require fifty percent plus one. The legislature is trying to shut down ballot measures bit by bit. **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](#).

- [SB1065 appropriation; widening I-10](#) (Shope: Borrelli, Teran) appropriates \$360 million for the widening of I-10 south of Phoenix, between Chandler and Casa Grande. **MONITOR**
- [SB1340 toll roads; conversion; prohibition](#) (Mendez: Burch, Anna Hernandez, et al.) prohibits the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) or a county board of supervisors from converting a publicly funded or maintained street or highway into a toll road. **SUPPORT**

### House Committee on Appropriations at 2:00 PM in HHR1

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

- [SB1223 water infrastructure; commerce grant fund](#) (Shope) extends the start date for projects to be eligible for grants from the Water Infrastructure and Commerce Grant Fund and appropriates \$8 million for it from the general fund for it. **MONITOR**

- [SB1392 appropriation; state park; Verde River](#) (Kerr) appropriates an undesignated amount for a state park at the headwaters of the Verde River. It is good to see legislators supporting parks again and this area of the Verde River is beautiful and worthy of protection as a state park. Establishing a park there could help indirectly limit groundwater pumping there too, which is a serious threat to the river. **SUPPORT**

## Thursday, March 30th

**Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Energy, and Water at 9:00 AM in SHR2**  
**Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting [here](#).**

- [HB2218 technical correction; power authority; monies \(now: power authority; projects; energy storage\)](#) (Griffin) authorizes the Arizona Power Authority to acquire, build and operate facilities, projects and works to store electric power. **MONITOR**
- [HB2411 water supply; elimination; reduction; damages \(now: grazing operations; energy projects; compensation\)](#) (Cook: Martinez, Toma, et al.) requires those leasing state trust lands to pay the livestock interests if they build a project that reduces the size of a grazing lessee's operation. They have to pay for loss of profits through the end of the lease term or five years after the grazing operation's size is reduced, whichever is less; loss in value of the grazing operation; the cost to relocate the grazing operation; or the cost to mitigate losses due to the reduction of the grazing operation. They try to apply it to both state and federal lands, but have no authority on federal lands. **OPPOSE**
- [HB2441 state tree; residential planning](#) (Griffin) says cities and counties cannot limit by ordinance the planting of our state tree, the palo verde. **MONITOR**
- [HB2618 decommissioning; solar and wind; standards](#) (Griffin) proscribes requirements for solar and wind facilities, including decommissioning. It is odd that she is calling out only these and not including anything on coal or gas. **OPPOSE**
- [HB2669 solid waste; sludge; water quality](#) (Now: prohibition; biosolids; land application) (Dunn) includes limits on the application of biosolids. **SUPPORT**
- [HB2763 appropriation; Mohave wash recharge basin](#) (Gillette: Biasiucci, Cook) appropriates just over \$4 million for this project. **MONITOR**
- [HB2806 state parks heritage fund; appropriation](#) (Carbone: Biasiucci, Blattman, et al.) makes a one time appropriation of \$10 million to the State Parks Heritage Fund. While we support this, we want to see SB1224 adopted as it includes ongoing funding for the Heritage Fund from the lottery. **SUPPORT**
- [HCM2005 hunting; angling; wildlife conservation](#) (Griffin) asks Congress to respect Game and Fish and hunting and fishing. I'm not sure what the point of this is.
- [HCM2006 urging eradication; salt cedars; waterways](#) (Griffin) asks Congress to appropriate dollars to eradicate salt cedars from Arizona waterways and asks the U.S. Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to develop innovative solutions to control the proliferation of salt cedars. Looking at innovative ways to remove salt cedars and replace them with native trees and restore more natural flows would be helpful. **MONITOR**
- [HCM2008 air quality; ozone standards; opposing](#) (Carbone) asks Congress and the Biden administration to stop the Environmental Protection Agency from imposing any sanctions on Arizona for not meeting clean air requirements. **OPPOSE**
- [HCR2012 support; water management policies](#) (Griffin) supports continuing water policies that "protect property rights and water rights." I am not sure the purpose
- of this. Write a letter for pity sake.



Northern Mexican garter snake photo courtesy of US Fish and Wildlife Service

