



Katie Hobbs
Governor

ARIZONA STATE PARKS & TRAILS

Robert Broscheid
Executive Director



2023 GENERAL LEGISLATION:

HB 2144: open meetings; capacity; posting; violation:

Summary: Requires all public bodies to provide sufficient seating to accommodate the anticipated attendance of the deliberations and proceedings of a public body. Requires the agenda of the public meeting to include notice of the time that the public will have physical access to the meeting place. Exempts agendas of meetings through technological devices from providing the time the public will have physical access to the meeting place.

Update: Passed Third Read in the House with 60 ayes, 0 nays. Bill was sent to the Senate. This bill was struck at the Senate and another bill was added in its place, so this bill is dead.

HB 2145: dude ranches; historical markers:

Summary: Requires the Arizona Historical Society (Historical Society) to issue historical markers for a dude ranch that is designated for inclusion in the Arizona Dude Ranch Heritage Trail Program (Trail Program). Retroactive to tax years beginning September 29, 2021, modifies requirements related to the guest ranch property valuation. This will reclassify Dude Ranches in order to significantly decrease their property taxes.

Update: Bill passed 45-15 in the House and moved to the Senate. This bill passed Senate Natural Resources committee and Finance committee. Awaiting floor action.

HB 2374: state lake improvement fund; appropriation:

Summary: Appropriates \$2,000,000 from the State Parks Revenue Fund and \$3,000,000 from the state General Fund to the Arizona State Parks Board for operating costs and limits the amount of annually deposited State Lake Improvement Fund monies that can be used for staff support and fund administration.

Update: It passed with a vote of 53-7 in the House. Moved to the Senate. Passed the Senate Natural Resources, Energy and Water committee and Appropriations committee. Going into budget negotiations.

HB 2416: NOW: electronic applications; government employees; prohibition

Summary: Previously bans the use of Tik Tok on state agency IT systems. Only allows for Law Enforcement to use it for emergencies. Requires ADOA to develop standards, guidelines and practices for state agencies, contractors of this state and public institutions of higher education for use of covered applications on state information technology (IT) systems.



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Update: The bill passed in the House with 31 ayes, 28 nays. Moved to the Senate. Assigned to the Government committee in the Senate and passed. Awaiting floor action. However, the Governor put out an executive order on this issue, so this bill may not pass.

HB 2505: outdoor recreation coordinating commission; continuation:

Summary: Continues the Arizona Outdoor Recreation Coordinating Commission for 8 years.

Update: Bill was voted on in the House and passed 52-4. Moved to Senate. Assigned to the Natural Resources committee in the Senate and passed. The Senate voted on the bill 20-7 and will be going to the Governor's desk to be signed.

HB 2506: Arizona state parks board; continuation:

Summary: Continues the Arizona State Parks Board for 8 years.

Update: Was voted on the House floor and passed 52-4. Moved to the Senate. The bill was assigned to the Senate Natural Resources committee and passed. Bill passed the Senate floor 21-6 and will be going to the Governor's desk to be signed.

HB 2518: appropriation; Glassford Dells regional park:

Summary: Appropriates \$3,500,000 from the General Fund to the Arizona State Parks Board in FY 2024. Directs the Arizona State Parks Board to evenly distribute this appropriation to the City of Prescott and the Town of Prescott Valley for the Glassford Dells Regional Park if these municipalities and Yavapai County jointly show that they have at least \$3,500,000 in commitments of matching monies from sources other than the State of Arizona.

Update: Passed in House with 39 ayes and 18 nays. Moved to the Senate. Not assigned to any committees in the Senate. Will be negotiated in budget.

HB 2670: state agencies; veterans' status; inquiry:

Summary: Beginning January 1, 2024, requires all state agencies, boards and commissions to ask all individuals, either at the initial point of service or on an application form, if the individual or a family member has served in the military, and to provide all those that answer in the affirmative with specified information. Includes the U.S. Space Force in the definition of Armed Forces of the United States and appropriates \$50,000 to the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services (ADVS) for costs associated with including the U.S. Space Force as an enumerated branch.

Update: Passed out of House with 53 ayes 5 nays. Transmitted to the Senate, assigned to Senate Military Affairs and Appropriations committees. Passed both committees. Awaiting floor action.



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HB 2806: state parks heritage fund; appropriation:

Summary: Appropriates \$10,000,000 from the state General Fund in FY 2024 to the Arizona State Parks Heritage Fund and the money can't be used to acquire new property.

Update: Passed House with 43 ayes and 15 nays and transmitted to the Senate. The bill was assigned to Senate Natural Resources committee and Appropriations committee. Passed the Natural Resources committee, but did not get a hearing in Senate Appropriations. Will be negotiated in the budget.

HB 2808: public records; time frame

Summary: Bill requires agencies who receive public records requests to deliver within 5 days. A penalty of \$500-\$1500 per day after each day past that 5-day deadline. There was a committee amendment to extend from 5 to 15 days.

Amendments:

1. Removes the five-day response time requirement for public record requests and states entities subject to public record requests respond according to existing statute.
2. Stipulates that access to a public record is deemed denied if the custodian fails to respond to the request according to existing statute instead of within five business days.
3. Changes the civil penalty to state that an applicable agency that is found to willfully or intentionally refuse to comply with a Request will be subject to a civil penalty of at least \$500 but not more than \$5,000 for each occurrence.
4. Stipulates that except for an entity that maintains a centralized online portal for submission of public records request, an entity subject to a Request must provide the following within five business days after receiving the request. 1) That the request has been received; 2) Contact information; 3) The expected date the request will be processed.
5. Stipulates that an entity is not restricted from subsequently notifying a requestor of a Request of the denial or delay of the request.

Update: Passed the House floor with 57 ayes, 0 nays. Moved to the Senate. Assigned to Senate Government committee. Did not receive a hearing in the Senate Government committee. Bill is dead.

SB 1166: public employers; postsecondary degree requirements:

Summary: Effective January 1, 2024, prohibits a public employer from rejecting an applicant solely for not having a postsecondary degree, except on a clear demonstration the degree is necessary.



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Update: Passed in the Senate 17 ayes, 11 nays. Assigned to the House Government Committee. Passed in the House 58 ayes 0 nays. Transmitted to Governor for signature, but the Governor vetoed the bill.

SB 1224: state parks; lottery; heritage fund:

Summary: Requires \$10,000,000 to be deposited into the Arizona State Parks Heritage Fund annually from the State Lottery Fund after preceding distributions are satisfied.

Update: The bill was voted on the Senate floor 24 ayes and 5 nays. Transmitted to the House. Bill passed out of Land Agriculture and Rural Affairs. Will be negotiated in budget.

SB 1239: state agencies; payments; cryptocurrency:

Summary: Effective January 1, 2024, allows a state agency to enter into an agreement with a cryptocurrency issuer to accept cryptocurrency as a method of payment for any amount due to the state agency or the state. Allows tax payments to be made in cryptocurrency if the Arizona Department of Revenue enters into an agreement with a cryptocurrency issuer to accept cryptocurrency as a method of payment.

Update: Was voted on in the Senate 16 ayes 13 nays and transferred to the House. Assigned to House Ways and Means committee. Failed to pass in ways and means. This bill is dead.

SB 1392: appropriation; state park; Verde River:

Summary: Appropriates \$10 million from the state General Fund in FY 2024 to the Arizona State Parks Board to establish a state park at the headwaters of the Verde River.

Update: Heard in the Senate Natural Resources committee and passed. Was also heard in Appropriations committee with an amendment to appropriate 10 million dollars and passed. Passed on the Senate floor with 23 ayes 5 nays. Assigned to House Appropriations committee. Passed House Appropriations and was amended with a 7-million-dollar price tag instead of 10 million. Will be negotiated in budget.

SB 1694: public monies; ideology training; prohibition:

Summary: Prohibits a 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. Prohibits a public entity from entering into a contract with a company that participates in a diversity, equity and inclusion program.

Update: Passed Senate 16 ayes 12 nays. This bill was sent to the House. Passed the House Government committee. Awaiting floor action.



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SB 1714: appropriation; Arizona trail fund:

Summary: Appropriates \$250,000 from the state General Fund in FY 2024 to the Arizona Trail Fund.

Update: Passed in the Senate 25 ayes 4 nays. Transmitted to the House. Assigned to House Land Agriculture and Rural Affairs committee. Passed the Land committee. Will be negotiated in budget.