

Legislative Link Update

March 17, 2017

Today is the 68th day of session and at this point in the legislative process bills continue to be heard and debated in the opposite chamber. This will continue over the next couple of weeks as 127 bills on our tracking list that cleared their chamber of origin still have not received a committee hearing in the opposite chamber. The next anticipated deadline is March 24th which is the last day for bills to be considered in committee in the opposite chamber. To date, 47 bills have passed the Legislature. The Governor has now signed 19 of those bills and the remaining 28 await either his signature or veto.

Below are updates on a few bills we think might be of interest to you:

SB 1238 Early Ballot Envelopes

SB 1238 would require that early ballot return envelopes be of a type that does not reveal the voter's selections. SB 1238 was approved in the Senate with a vote of 30-0 and was assigned to the House Government committee where it received a do pass. SB 1238 now awaits a hearing by the House Rules committee.

HB 2271 Occupational Licensing; Military Members

HB 2271 satisfies the licensing requirements for a member of the U.S. Armed Forces who can demonstrate license or certificate qualifications from equivalent education, training or experience obtained in the Armed Services. HB 2271 was approved in the House with a vote of 58-0 and in the Senate with a vote of 30-0, and now awaits a signature from the Governor.

SB 1131 Schools; K-3 Reading Program

SB 1131 requires various changes related to the K-3 reading program in schools. A student cannot be promoted from the third grade if his/her score on the reading portion of the statewide assessment does not demonstrate sufficient reading skills, instead of demonstrates that the student's reading falls far below the third grade level. The Department of Education is required to develop program implementation guidance for school districts and charter schools to assist schools in administering an effective K-3 reading program plan. SB 1131 passed out of the Senate with a vote of 28-1, was assigned to the House Education committee where it received a do pass, and was approved in House COW with an amendment. The amended bill must now receive final approval on the House Floor and then will await Senate consideration of the House amendment.

SCR 1027 State Senators; Four-Year Terms

SCR 1027 authorizes the 2018 general election ballot to carry the question of whether to amend the state Constitution to change the terms of office for state senators to four-year terms and limit the number of terms a legislator may serve to two, beginning with the 56th Legislature in 2023. SCR 1027 passed out of the Senate with a vote of 19-11 and was referred to the House Government committee where it received a do pass. SCR 1027 now awaits a hearing from the House Rules committee.

This year, our bill tracking list will be available through an online report that can be accessed at the following website. The password is "Glendale". Utilizing a dynamic online report allows our Legislative Link participants to receive the most up to date information on bill status and committee hearing schedules at any time.

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=25823&listid=61088&print=true>

Thank you again for your participation in Glendale's Legislative Link Program.

Remember, you can watch committee hearings via the internet by going to the [legislature's website](#) and clicking on the live proceedings hyperlink located in the column on the left side of the page.

Arizona State Legislature Website: www.azleg.gov.

To determine who your state legislators are, [click here](#).

You can also visit the Intergovernmental Programs Department's webpage for additional information by [clicking here](#).

Please note that the bills included on the Legislative Link tracking list are those that we believe might be of interest to you and your neighborhood. The Legislative Link tracking list does not include every bill being monitored by the City and the City does not have a formal position on all of the bills included on the list.

The information being emailed to you is a result of your subscription to the City of Glendale Legislative Link Program. We hope to grow this email distribution list to ensure that our neighbors and friends can be aware of the important issues being discussed at the legislature. To add an additional user or to unsubscribe, please email dburt@glendaleaz.com.

Best regards,

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