

Legislative Link Update

February 18, 2020

Hello and welcome to the 2020 Glendale Legislative Link Program.

Today is the 37th day of session and there have been over 1,707 bills, memorials, and resolutions introduced. This is the most we have seen introduced in one legislative session. The next session deadline is Friday, February 21 which is the last day for House consideration of House bills and Senate consideration of Senate bills. We expect this deadline to be extended one week given the unprecedented amount of legislation introduced this session. Of the 130 bills on our tracking list, a total of 41 bills have cleared their assigned committee, 25 have cleared the House or Senate Rules Committee, and 11 have passed their chamber of origin and await action from the other chamber.

Below are updates on a few bills that we believe may be of interest to you:

SB 1160 Firefighters; Cancers; Presumption; Workers' Compensation

SB 1160 proposes to alter the workers' compensation statutes to ensure a firefighter who is diagnosed with a cancer on the covered list, has at least 5 years of service, and is a non-tobacco user has an irrebuttable presumption to workers' compensation benefits. The covered list includes cancers to the buccal cavity, pharynx, esophagus, large intestine, lung, kidney, prostate, skin, stomach, ovarian, breast or testicular cancer or non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, multiple myeloma or malignant melanoma. SB 1160 passed out of the Senate 25-4-1 and is now awaiting committee reference in the House of Representatives.

SB 1435 Death Benefit; Transitional Housing Benefit

SB 1435 establishes a transitional housing benefit to the families of any law enforcement officer or firefighter killed in the line of duty. In addition to any other death benefit, if a law enforcement officer or firefighter is killed in the line of duty, the state will pay to the decedent's surviving spouse or surviving dependent a transitional housing benefit payment that covers the cost of a residential mortgage loan or lease agreement for one year for a primary residence. The benefit payments cannot exceed \$5,000 (a month) and must be deposited into a third-party managed escrow account. SB 1435 appropriates \$500,000 from the general fund in FY2020-21 to the newly established Transitional Housing Benefit Fund to pay for the benefit established by this legislation. SB 1435 passed out of the Senate Appropriations Committee on February 12 and received an okay from the Senate Rules Committee on February 18. SB 1435 is now awaiting action by the Senate Committee of the Whole.

HB 2055 Civil Traffic Violations; Community Restitution

HB 2055 allows a person who violates traffic and vehicle regulation statutes to perform court-approved community restitution in lieu of paying a civil penalty, surcharge, assessment or fee. On the person's request the court may order the person to perform community restitution in lieu of the payment of all or part of the remaining monetary obligation. The court shall credit any community restitution performed at a rate of \$10 per hour. The court is prohibited from assessing the time payment fee (set elsewhere in statute and currently \$20) on civil traffic violations. HB 2055 passed out of the House 33-27 and is now awaiting committee reference in the Senate.

HB 2473 Criminal Speeding

HB 2473 changes state law for excessive speeding. A person is guilty of excessive speeding, a class 3 (lowest) misdemeanor, if the person exceeds the posted speed limit by more than 20 miles per hour, instead of exceeds 85 miles per hour, in locations other than those specified for other speeds.. HB 2473 passed out of House Transportation Committee on February 13 and received an okay from the House Rules Committee on February 17. HB 2473 is now awaiting action by the House Committee of the Whole.

Similar to previous years, 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. <https://azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=26403&listid=68786&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](#)

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 dtorres@glendaleaz.com

Best regards,

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