

Legislative Link Update

February 26, 2021

Hello and welcome to the 2021 Glendale Legislative Link Program.

Today is the 47th day of session and with several of the session deadlines behind us, more than half of all bill introduced this session are now dead. With the deadline for committees to hear bills in their chamber of origin officially behind us, House and Senate Committees are now beginning to take action on the other chamber's bills. There is no guarantee that a bill from the chamber of origin will be heard in the opposite chamber. This makes for very interesting dynamics as legislators are seen meeting with members in the opposite chamber in an attempt to get their bills through the legislative process and on to the Governor's desk.

The Arizona Capitol Times posted a story that acts as a summary of the first six weeks of session. I thought you would find this interesting, so I wanted to share it with you. Please see attached.

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

HB 2623 Fireworks; Use; Overnight Hours; Prohibition

HB 2623 authorizes counties and municipalities to prohibit the use of permissible consumer fireworks between the hours of 10 PM and 8 AM. The bill passed out of the House of Representatives 35-24 has now been transmitted to the Senate where it will undergo the same approval process. We are now waiting for this bill to be assigned a Senate Committee.

HB 2648 Religious Services; Essential Services

Hb 2648 declares religious services as an essential service during a state of emergency and under this bill, religious services are deemed necessary and vital to the health and welfare of the public. State government is required to allow a religious organization to continue operating and to engage in religious services during a state of emergency to the same or greater extent than other organizations or businesses that provide essential services and that are necessary and vital to the health and welfare of the public are allowed to operate. HB 2648 does not prohibit state government from requiring religious organizations to comply with natural health, safety or occupancy requirements that are issued by state government or the federal government and that apply to all organizations and businesses that provide essential services. State government is prohibited from enforcing any health, safety or occupancy requirement that imposes a substantial burden on a religious service unless state government demonstrates that applying the burden to the religious service in that particular instance is essential to further a compelling governmental interest and is the least restrictive means of furthering that compelling governmental interest. HB 2648 passed out of the House 38-22 and now awaits action in the Senate.

2310 Executive Orders; Review; Attorney General

HB 2310 reforms the Governor's power to issue Executive Orders. HB 2310 allows the Legislative Council to review presidential executive orders and recommend to the Attorney General (AG) to further review an executive order to determine the legality of the order. HB 2310 requires the AG to file a declaratory judgment action in federal district court if the AG determines the order is illegal. HB 2310 passed out of the House on a party-line vote (31-29) and now awaits action in the Senate.

HB 2551 Misconduct Involving Weapons; Public Places

HB 2551 exempts a person who possesses a valid concealed weapons permit from the prohibition on carrying a concealed weapon in a public establishment or at a public event. Some exceptions, including for public establishments or events that are a "secured facility" (defined), that are the licensed premises of a liquor licensee, that are an educational institution, and that are a vehicle or craft. HB 2551 passed out of the House on a party-line vote (31-29) and now awaits action in the Senate.

HB 2114 Income Tax; Returns; Filing Extension

HB 2114 extends the due date for an income tax return for a taxpayer filing a corporate or exempt organization return that has been granted an extension to seven months after the initial due date provided for filing returns. HB 2114 does not include small business corporation returns and the bill is retroactive to tax years beginning with 2021. HB 2114 passed out of the House 59-0 and is now awaiting action in the Senate.

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=26568&listid=72498&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,

Ryan Lee
Intergovernmental Programs Manager

City of Glendale
Office: [623-930-2081](tel:623-930-2081)
Cell: [480-318-4510](tel:480-318-4510)
[Find me on LinkedIn](#)