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Legislative Bulletin: Issue 3 – February 2, 2026



Legislative Update:

Welcome to the fourth week of session. To date, 1,621 bills and 114 memorials and resolutions have been introduced. Today marks the Senate bill introduction deadline.

Public Safety Technology Bills

The Senate Committee on Appropriations, Transportation & Technology is scheduled to hear **SB1138: automated license plate readers** on Tuesday, February 3. A **strike-everything amendment** to the bill has been introduced in an attempt to address the concerns of public safety stakeholders. In particular, the striker removes language that would have prohibited third-party data storage — a requirement that would have imposed significant costs on local governments that contract with vendors to securely manage this information. The striker also revises the bill's data-retention provisions. While the introduced version of SB1138 imposed a 90-day retention limit, the amended language instead requires law enforcement agencies to responsibly retain data, allowing flexibility to support criminal investigations and court proceedings.

In addition, legislation targeting photo enforcement systems continues to advance. **SCR1004: photo enforcement systems; prohibition** passed the Senate Appropriation, Transportation & Technology committee on a party-line 6–4 vote last month, and a mirror measure, **HCR2004**, is scheduled for a hearing on Wednesday in the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee. The League supports the ability of cities and towns to use tools such as license plate readers and photo enforcement systems in a responsible manner to assist law enforcement, enhance public safety, and reflect local community priorities.

Primary Election Fix

Legislation to permanently move Arizona’s primary election earlier in the summer continues to advance. In 2024, lawmakers temporarily shifted the primary election date after county election officials warned that existing timelines could jeopardize compliance with federal deadlines and the timely certification of election results, particularly for military and overseas voters.

This session, **HB2022: elections; July primary; curing; observers** passed the House Federal, Military Affairs & Elections Committee on January 21 and would permanently move the primary election from August to July. A companion measure, **SB1425: elections; July primary; cure; petitions** is scheduled to be heard in the Senate Judiciary & Elections committee on Wednesday. Both bills are intended to provide election officials with sufficient time to complete canvasses, conduct recounts if necessary, and meet all statutory and federal requirements ahead of the general election.

Negotiations are underway to align the two bills, with the goal of advancing identical legislation that can be signed by February 13 with an emergency clause. This approach is intended to ensure clarity and certainty for election officials and to support the smooth administration of the upcoming primary election.

Upcoming Hearings

HB 2118: S/E mobile food vendors; licensure (Carter N)

House Committee on Commerce

Eliminates authority for municipalities and counties to require separate local licensure of mobile food vendors based on background checks, identification or fingerprinting of the owner.

Position: OPPOSED

Hearing: February 3, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. in HHR 5

HB 2400: motor fuel tax holiday (Willoughby)

House Committee on Natural Resources, Energy & Water

Suspends the motor vehicle fuel tax from May 1 through September 30 of each year for fuel purchased, sold, possessed, used, or consumed in Area A (Maricopa County) or Area C (Pinal County) and prohibits vendors from

collecting or recovering the tax during that period. Requires vendors to remit any fuel tax amounts collected in error and maintains all existing reporting requirements. Requires the Arizona Department of Transportation to annually allocate and transfer \$72.6 million from the Arizona Highway User Revenue Fund to counties and municipalities.

Position: OPPOSED

Hearing: February 3, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. in HHR 3

HB 2795: small modular reactors; zoning; approval (Carbone)

House Committee on Natural Resources, Energy & Water

Prohibits a county from preventing, restricting or otherwise regulating the construction and operation of a small modular reactor if the owner or operator obtains a federal early site permit, completes the required federal public notice and comment process, receives a federal design certification and submits specified documentation to the county board of supervisors.

Position: OPPOSED

Hearing: February 3, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. in HHR 3

SB 1241: municipalities; counties; private permitting providers (Bolick)

Senate Committee on Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency

Authorizes property owners or their contractors to use private permitting providers for building plan reviews and inspections for single-trade residential construction projects without municipal or county approval. Requires municipalities and counties to accept and track private permits and private certificates of completion and prohibits them from charging review or processing fees other than reasonable recording fees. Prohibits municipalities and counties from taking discriminatory action against a property owner or contractor for using a private permitting provider. Requires municipalities and counties to post building codes and permitting fee schedules on their websites and restricts their ability to charge permitting fees if they fail to do so.

Position: OPPOSED

Hearing: February 4, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in SHR 109

Session Deadlines

Every session has deadlines pertaining to bill submissions and hearings. These are established by Senate and House rule and are subject to change. This year's schedule is as follows:

February

Monday 2/2: Senate Bill Introduction Deadline

Monday 2/9: House Bill Introduction Deadline

Friday 2/20: Last day for consideration of bills in chamber of origin

March

Friday 3/27: Last day for consideration of bills in opposite chamber

April

Friday 4/17: Last day for consideration of bills in conference committee

Tuesday 4/21: 100th Day of Session

Legislative Staff

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What the League is Tracking

Stay informed about legislation that affects municipalities throughout the state. Track proposed bills and resolutions, stay updated on their progress, and actively engage in the democratic process. Here are some priority measures the League is tracking:

Legislative Bill Monitoring

League of Arizona Cities and Towns



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