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## Legislative Bulletin: Issue 18 – June 16, 2025



### **Legislative Update:**

Welcome to the twenty-second week of the 2025 Legislative Session. A total of 1,853 measures have been submitted for consideration this year, including 961 House Bills, 734 Senate Bills, and 128 resolutions or memorials. As of this writing, Governor Hobbs has signed 220 bills and vetoed 139.

### **Legislature Returns**

After a multi-week recess that began in early May, the Arizona Legislature is back in session—though much of the body’s legislative business is already complete. The House briefly reconvened on May 20th to pass three bipartisan bills before adjourning again. The Senate returned on May 28th for floor and committee work, mostly focused on executive nominations.

A handful of additional measures—including ballot referrals and budget bills—remain in play. Lawmakers have now resumed committee activity, with both chambers expected to reconvene the week of June 16th. While the path forward for a state budget is still unfolding, observers expect a flurry of action in the final weeks of session to avoid a government shutdown before the new fiscal year begins July 1.

## **House Passes GOP Budget Amid Walkout**

After weeks of posturing and informal talks, the Arizona House of Representatives passed its Republican-led budget plan late Friday night in a 31-0 vote, with all Democratic members absent. Democrats called the proposal a “silly waste of time” and vowed to work next week on what they termed the “real, bipartisan budget.” The House adjourned shortly after 9:30 p.m. and will reconvene on Tuesday, June 17th.

Tensions over the budget have simmered for weeks. Governor Hobbs declared the House proposal “dead on arrival” even before it cleared the Appropriations Committee, citing its failure to reflect executive priorities and bipartisan input. Meanwhile, House leaders said they were presenting their plan publicly first, intending to negotiate based on feedback. The proposal includes funding for highway infrastructure, school meal programs, tuition reductions, and changes to SNAP eligibility—provisions Republicans claim respond to requests from across the aisle and the Governor’s Office.

The Senate is reportedly in active talks with the Governor, and members familiar with both chambers’ budgets say they are closely aligned. Some suggest the Senate may take up the House bills, amend them, and send them back for concurrence, potentially expediting the process. With just weeks remaining before the start of the new fiscal year, all eyes are on the Senate to see whether a bipartisan compromise can be finalized and passed before the clock runs out.

### **CALL TO ACTION – Extend Arizona’s Low Income Housing Tax Credit**

December 2025 and is at risk of ending if the Legislature does not include an extension in this year’s budget.

Since its creation and the initial \$160 million state investment, the program is projected to generate approximately \$745.9 million in economic impact from construction tied to the 14 supported projects throughout the state. It has helped create over 4,500 construction jobs and \$318.3 million in wages. Once completed and occupied, these developments are expected to generate \$66.4 million in annual economic activity through a combination of property operations and resident spending in local communities.

Despite these clear benefits, lawmakers have not included an extension of the LIHTC program in the current budget proposal. Failing to act would eliminate one of Arizona’s few remaining tools to encourage affordable housing development, making Arizona one of the only states to allow such a vital program to lapse.

With the budget process moving forward this week, now is the time to contact legislators and urge them to include an extension of the LIHTC program in this year’s state budget. You can find their contact information—email addresses and office phone numbers—at the following links:

[\[SENATE\]](#) / [\[HOUSE\]](#).

## **Gubernatorial Vetoes**

Since our last bulletin, Governor Hobbs vetoed three bills that were opposed by the League of Arizona Cities & Towns:

### **HB2221: law enforcement; defunding; prohibition**

Would have penalized cities and towns for reducing police department budgets year-over-year, regardless of local funding realities.

### **HB2222: settlement agreements; report; approval**

Required cities and counties to submit reports on large settlement agreements to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee for review, even if doing so delayed or disrupted urgent legal resolutions.

### **HB2927: public meetings; records; requirements; penalties**

Mandated all public bodies to provide physical space for participation in virtual-only meetings and limited fees for record requests, creating burdensome administrative requirements.

We appreciate the Governor's thoughtful consideration of legislation impacting local authority and operational flexibility.

## **Legislative Staff**

You may contact our legislative division by phone at (602) 258-5786 or by e-mail using the following information:

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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

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