



# **POLICY NEWS & UPDATES**

[PLAIN TRANSCRIPT HERE](#)

## **55th Arizona Legislature January 28, 2022**

One thousand, three hundred and two bills have dropped so far. A few days left for all bills to be introduced in either the Senate or House chambers. While we

have not done the official count, there appears to be large amount of bills dropped dealing with education and voting. This is in addition to what we mentioned in last week's update.

There has not been much activity in the Senate and House Health and Human Services committees so far. Those are the two committees that most impact the lives of the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and DeafBlind communities. But there has been a lot of activity in Government and Education committees in both of the chambers.

This past week several election and education related bills were heard. Some, if not many very controversial. For example, [SB 1133](#) would prohibit all cities and school district elections from being all mail ballots. Meaning, in those election races, voters would be required to vote in person at a polling place.

Bills like this impact the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and DeafBlind communities directly. Every election we hear stories of how overwhelmingly and frustrating in person voting can be; stories from folks like you who share how mail-in ballot elections are less stressful when voting from the comfort of your home.

When bills like these are being debated in committee, [YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS](#) need to hear from you! They need to know that there is a person behind every story ACDHH shares when we go down and ask them to vote no (or in other cases yes). We cannot do it alone! We need you to email your state Senator or Representative to hear directly from YOU too about the impacts their votes will have on you.

**Join us next week on our YouTube channel @AzCDHH where we will be discussing how you can get involved this coming legislative session!**

---

## **BILLS WE ARE WATCHING**

---

[HB 2031](#) higher education, individuals with a disability  
Sponsored by Rep. Udall (LD-25)

"Community colleges" (defined elsewhere in statute) and universities under the jurisdiction of the Arizona Board of Regents are required to adopt policies that are transparent and explicit about the process by which the university or community college determines eligibility for accommodations for an individual with a disability, and that make any of a list of specified documents sufficient to establish that an individual is an individual with a disability.

**Passed House Committee of the Whole 1/27/2022 (55-1-0).  
Transmitted to Senate.**

[HB 2436](#) ADA state coordinator  
Sponsored by Rep. Longdon (LD-24)

The Governor's Office of Equal Opportunity is required to hire a full-time statewide Americans with disabilities coordinator to implement an annual plan to carry out the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act in Arizona. Appropriates \$100,000 and 1 FTE position from the general fund in FY2022-23 to the Office for the coordinator.

**Assigned to House Health and Human Services and Appropriations Committee.**

[HB2565](#) ASDB; revisions  
Sponsored by Rep. Udall (LD-25)

Various changes to statutes relating to the Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and Blind (ASDB). The ASDB is required to hold a placement meeting for a child enrolled in a campus-based model at least annually, and is required to invite a representative of the child's home school district. If a determination is made that the ASDB is no longer the least restrictive environment, the home school district shall enroll the child. Expands the membership of the placement and evaluation team.

**Assigned to House Education committee.**

[HB 2566](#) special education vouchers; amount  
Sponsored by Rep. Udall (LD-25)

Establishes amounts for special education institutional vouchers for students enrolled in a campus-based program at the Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and Blind.

**Assigned to House Education and Appropriations committee.**

[HB 2454](#) statutory conformity; property tax exemptions  
Sponsored by Rep. Carter (LD-8)

Exempts the property of veterans with service or nonservice connected disabilities who are Arizona residents from taxation, with an allowed exemption amount of \$4,200 multiplied by the percentage of the veteran's disability, as rated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, if

the person's total assessment does not exceed \$30,000. The exemption limit for property of widows, widowers and persons with total and permanent disabilities is increased to \$4,200, from \$3,000, if the person's total assessment does not exceed \$30,000, increased from \$20,000. Also makes various changes to property tax statutes in order to conform to proposed changes to property tax exemptions contained in the state Constitution. Conditionally enacted on the state Constitution being amended by a vote of the people at the next general election to consolidate and reorganize provisions relating to exemptions from property taxation.

### **Assigned to House Ways and Means Committee.**

[SB 1058](#) drive up voting prohibited

Sponsored by Sen. Rogers (LD-6)

The county recorder or officer in charge of elections is prohibited from allowing a voter to receive a ballot and vote from a vehicle or other conveyance, and from using a ballot drop box except inside a polling place or voting center or the county recorder's or election department's offices. Appropriately trained election workers are required to monitor ballot drop boxes.

### **Assigned to Senate Government committee.**

[SB 1199](#) Alzheimer's; dementia; advisory council

Sponsored by Sen. Gray (LD-21)

Establishes the 17-member Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias Advisory Council to examine the needs of individuals who have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias, the services available in Arizona for those individuals, and the ability of health care providers and facilities to meet the current and future needs of those individuals. By 18 months after the effective date of this legislation, the Council is required to submit a new State Alzheimer's Plan to the Governor and the Legislature. The Council is required to submit a report on the status of implementing the Plan and any recommendations for implementation to the Governor and the Legislature by February 1 of each year.

### **Assigned to Senate Health and Human Services committee.**

***ACDHH has requested an amendment to this bill to include ACDHH as a representative on the advisory council. Request***

***pending from the Sponsor.***

**SB 1133** schools; cities; all mail prohibited

Sponsored by Sen. Rogers (LD-6)

Municipalities and school districts are prohibited from conducting a mail ballot election. Effective January 1, 2023.

**Assigned to Senate Government and Education committee.**

**Passed Senate Government 1/24/2022 (4-3-0). Pending Senate Education committee agenda.**

---

## **WORDS. SO MANY WORDS.**



Sometimes it feels like there are so many weird words in policy.

Have you ever wondered what a specific phrase or a word used to describe the legislative process means? Ever wondered how all of this policy stuff works?

We do! ALL. THE. TIME.

Today's Word and Phrase of the Day...COW.

What the heck is COW? COW stands for Committee of the Whole. COW is a legislative procedure that started way back when. Like King of England House of Commons 1600's way back when.

While the process of COW has changed many times since the 1600's, it has remained largely intact of its purpose. During COW is when all members come together to debate, discuss, or propose an amendment to a specific bill being heard in the chamber.

Do you want to know the meaning behind a policy word or legislative process? Send us an email at [info@acdhh.az.gov](mailto:info@acdhh.az.gov) with the subject line: I want to know.

We will answer in an upcoming policy update.



# cup<sup>o</sup> capital

ACDHH Legislative Update

BIWEEKLY ON  
FRIDAY MORNINGS  
@AZCDHH YOUTUBE

ASL Interpreters and CART provided



**Next Airing February 4th at  
9:00am**

Have a question about a bill? Curious about the legislative process?

Want to know how to contact your Legislator?

Grab your coffee and join us as we chat about the "happenings down at the Capital" on ACDHH YouTube Channel.

ASL Interpreters and CART provided.

---

**Want to contact your Congressional Representative or US Senator? Not sure who they are or what District you live in? Click on [US House of Representatives](#) or [US Senators](#) to contact them today!**

**Want to contact your Arizona State House of Representatives or Arizona State Senator? Not sure who they are or what District you live in? Click on [Find My Legislator](#) to contact them today!**



[Register to Vote](#)

---

