



POLICY NEWS & UPDATES

[PLAIN TRANSCRIPT HERE](#)

55th Arizona Legislature January 21, 2022

Two weeks in at the State Legislature and over 900 bills have been "dropped". Many of the bills submitted have been related to elections/voting, education,

and the COVID pandemic. But there are many other bills related to the environment, fire and forest wildfire, and criminal justice issues.

Next week is the deadline for State Senators and Representatives to introduce bills. How many more will be dropped? Who knows!!!

Committee hearings started debating some of the introduced bills. One of the bills heard and passed this week was HB 2031. Sponsored by Representative Udall, HB 2031 would required state universities and community colleges to to adopt policies that are clear about the process for determining eligibility for accommodations for an individual with a disability. ACDHH supports this bill. Individuals who want to go to college should know what documentation is required for ensuring accommodation access under Section 504 Rehabilitation Act and ADA laws.

There are two other bills, HB 2565 and HB 2566 related to the Arizona State School for the Deaf and Blind. HB2565 is a "clean-up" bill from the ASDB LEA bill from last year. This bill clarifies roles and responsibilities of ASDB and home school districts. HB 2566 is about the rate ASDB receives from funds for costs related to materials and transportation for students enrolled at the campus based programs.

Several other bills that have been introduced in past years were introduced once again this year. ACDHH will continue to monitor and support some of those same bills. Bills such as HB 2436, Representative Longdon's ADA State Coordinator bill and bills related to aging and vulnerable adult bills.

Another bill we are reviewing is Representative Carter property tax exemption bill. This bill would impact any Veteran who has a disability and their ability to have property tax exempt. A very important bill that would have a positive impact on the lives of our Vets who are hard of hearing.

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 Education Committee 9-1-0. Next steps: moves to Rules Committee

[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.

Bill introduced. Next steps: needs to be first and second read before assigned to 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.

Bill introduced. Next steps: needs to be first and second read before assigned to 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.

Bill introduced. Next steps: needs to be first and second read before assigned to 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.

Bill introduced. Next steps: needs to be first and second read before assigned to 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.

Bill was first and second read. Next steps: needs to be assigned to a committee.

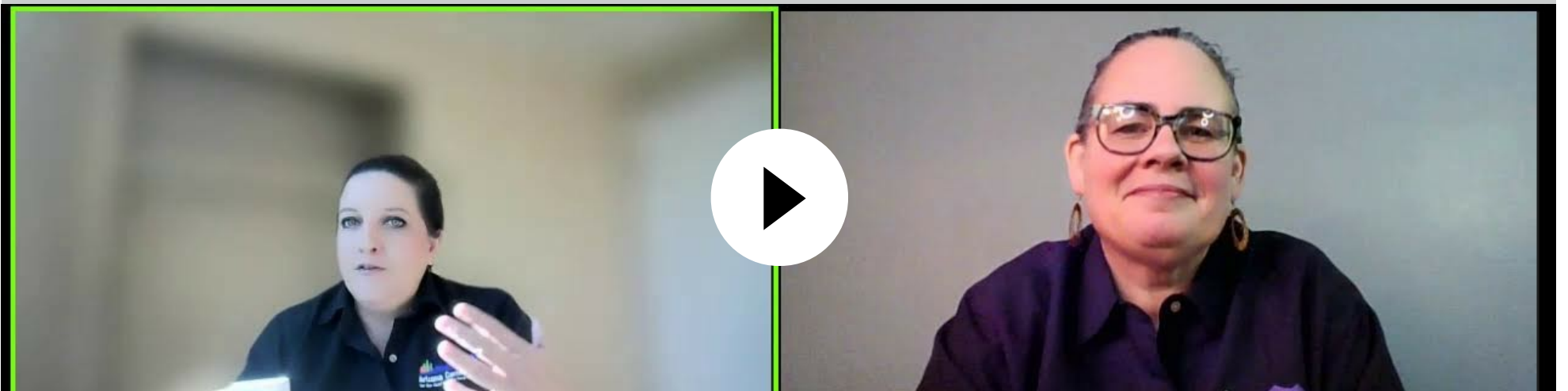
[SB 1199](#) Alzheimer's; dementia; advisory council
Sponsored by Sen. Gray (LD-21)

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.

Bill was assigned to Senate Health and Human Services committee. Next steps: bill assigned to committee agenda.

ICYMI



[Video Transcript Here](#)



cup^o Capital

ACDHH Legislative Update

BIWEEKLY ON
FRIDAY MORNINGS
@AZCDHH YOUTUBE

ASL Interpreters and CART provided



Have a question about a bill? 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.

Next Airing February 4th at 9:00am

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](#)

