

## 53<sup>rd</sup> Arizona Legislature - First Regular Session

### Legislative Report

The First Regular Session of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Arizona Legislature adjourned sine die on Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. The session lasted 122 days, which is considered average length. Each chamber saw new legislative leadership due to both former Speaker of the House David Gowan and President Andy Biggs stepping down to run for congressional seats. President Steve Yarbrough and Speaker J. D. Mesnard were chosen to lead the Legislature this session.

#### 53<sup>rd</sup> Regular Session Overview

- 1,079 bills introduced
- 353 passed and sent to the Governor
- 342 signed
- 11 vetoed
- 342 memorials and resolutions introduced
- 42 memorials and resolutions passed and sent to the Secretary of State
- General effective date of all enactments without an emergency clause is August 9, 2017

In the days leading up to the end of the session the Legislature passed a \$9.8 billion-dollar budget package. Unlike previous years the Legislature had extra money to spend with an additional \$208 million over last year's budget. Many in the Legislature called this the "education budget" as it provided additional funds to education needs by: adding a 2% pay raise for teachers, funding for university building projects, opening the state's Empowerment Scholarship Account school-voucher system to all students and creating a program to reward high performance schools. Highlights of the budget include:

- \$68 million for teacher pay raises
- \$27 million for university building projects which will allow for \$1 billion in bonding
- \$3 million for rural schools to provide internet connectivity
- \$38 million for results based funding for schools
- \$8 million for all day Kindergarten
- \$220,900 to AHCCCS to fight opioid abuse

On behalf of the Law Offices of John K. Mangum, P.C. we appreciate the opportunity to serve you at the Arizona Legislature and we are looking forward to preparing for the 2018 legislative session. Listed in the “Appendix” is the final legislative update. This report summarizes all legislative action to all bills we monitored on your behalf this session. Please note that all bills that were used as “striker” bills have been eliminated if the current subject matter is no longer applicable to your interests. Therefore, the final legislative report details legislation that is pertinent to your interests. In addition, attached is a list of general business related bills for your review. If you would like copies of legislation in its final form, copies are available at [www.azleg.gov](http://www.azleg.gov) or you may contact our office. If you have any questions relating to the report, please call us and we will be happy to assist you.