

51st Arizona Legislature - Second Regular Session
Legislative Report

The Second Regular Session of the 51st Arizona Legislature adjourned sine die on Thursday, April 24, 2014 at 1:46 a.m. The session lasted 101 days, one day shy of the 100 day goal set by Legislative leadership at the start of session. Legislators were anxious to finish the session so they could return to their districts and start campaigning for the upcoming elections. This year all the state elected positions including Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Treasurer, Superintendent of Public Instruction and Mine Inspector are up for re-election. In addition, all 90 members of the legislature are also up for re-election. All candidates intending to run for office had to file the necessary signatures with the Secretary of State no later than May 28, 2014. The primary election will be held August 26th and the general election on November 4th.

There will be many changes to the legislature after the elections based on current members running for other offices, retiring or being termed out of office. Of particular note is the House leadership, as Speaker Andy Tobin is leaving to run for Congress.

Two major issues captured the attention of the Legislature this session - child welfare services reform and the state budget. Based on allegations that many CPS cases had not been investigated, the Legislature focused its efforts on child services reform. Governor Brewer announced early in the session the creation of a new state child protective services agency. A subcommittee worked on the creation of the new agency, funding and other reforms throughout the regular session and a special session

was held May 27th - 29th to continue the work on the child services reforms. The \$9.2 billion dollar regular session budget package was sent to Governor Brewer in early April and it included over \$400 million in additional spending above FY 2014. The additional revenue was allocated to fund the Legislature's high priority issues of education and child protective services. Other session highlights include:

Regular Session Overview

- 1,205 bills were introduced
- 303 passed and were sent to the Governor
- 278 bills were signed
- 25 were vetoed
- 113 memorials and resolutions were introduced
- 35 memorials and resolutions passed and were sent to the Secretary of State
- General effective date of all enactments without an emergency clause is July 24, 2014

The following tax related bills passed this session:

HB 2115 Unemployed; Severance Pay; Definition which defines severance pay to include all amounts of compensation an employer pays to an employee who is ending his employment with the employer.

SB 1413 Taxes, Manufactures' Electricity Sales; Exemption which exempts manufacturers from paying sales tax on the electricity or natural gas use.

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 2015 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.state.az.us 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.