

52nd Arizona Legislature - First Regular Session

Legislative Report

The First Regular Session of the 52nd Arizona Legislature adjourned sine die on Friday, April 3, 2015 at 3:37 a.m. The session lasted 81 days, the shortest session since 1968. Legislative sessions have typically lasted an average of 125 days so the length of the session was one for the record books. From the beginning days of the legislative session Governor Ducey, President Biggs and Speaker Gowan worked in private to negotiate a budget deal. They were faced with finding a solution to the State's \$1.5 billion dollar budget shortfall. The result of the negotiations was a lean \$9.1 billion dollar budget that was passed and signed in early March. The budget package hit the education community hard with universities budgets being cut by 99 million dollars. Governor Ducey indicated that the cuts were hard but necessary to address the State's financial crisis. The Governor stated the budget cuts contained in the FY 2016 budget will put the State on track to make the budget structurally sound by 2018 without having to raise taxes. However, an important factor looming over the Legislature and future budgets is in the outcome of the lawsuit relating to education funding. A court decision could certainly have a major impact on future budgets.

52nd Regular Session Overview

- 1,163 bills were introduced
- 344 passed and were sent to the Governor
- 324 bills were signed
- 20 were vetoed
- 89 memorials and resolutions were introduced
- 36 memorials and resolutions passed and were sent to the Secretary of State

- General effective date of all enactments without an emergency clause is July 3, 2015

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 2016 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 Please note that all bills that were used as “striker” bills have been eliminated if the current subject matter is no longer applicable to your interests.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.