

WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Arizona Transit Association

February 10, 2006

Legislative Session Continues Forward Despite Ongoing English-Learners Impasse

Unless an extension is otherwise provided, according to the current legislative schedule, next week represents the last week in which a bill can receive a committee hearing within its chamber of origin. Accordingly, as is the case every legislative session, a series of last minute strike-everything amendments are anticipated.

The GOP Legislative Leadership and the Governor are still at an impasse over the *Florez* English-learners lawsuit with the state receiving a daily fine of \$500,000. Capitol railbirds have stopped trying to predict the timing of a resolution.

Recognizing the importance of moving past the policy impasse, in order to adopt the FY 07 budget, legislative leaders are attempting to weed out contentious and divisive issues that serve as distractions to the legislative priority of adopting a budget and adjournment.

Record Number of Bills Introduced for 2006 Session

With deadline finally passed for the introduction of bills, this legislative session set a new record for the total number of bills (1,424) introduced in a given session. If concurrent

resolutions and memorials are added to the mix, the total number of legislation rises to 1,577.

The Senate introduced 562 bills, placing it second on the all-time list for that chamber. Likewise, the House has introduced 862 bills, which places this legislative session first on the all-time House list. The previous record for the House was 782.

Week in Review

SB 1166, relating to stopping on state highways, passed out of the Senate Committee of the Whole and is ready for Third Reading.

SB 1298, relating to HURF repayment, passed out of the Senate Committee on Transportation.

A Preview for the Week Ahead

While the House and Senate Committees on Transportation are both meeting the week of February 13th, no legislation relating to public transportation is currently scheduled.

Comments

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LEGISLATIVE TRACKING REPORT

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BILL	TITLE	SPONSORS	SUMMARY	HOUSE COMMITTEES	SENATE COMMITTEES	ACTION
HB 2332	appropriations; highway monies; repayment	McClure and (2)	As introduced, appropriates \$52,215,300 in FY 2006-2007 from the state general fund to the Highway Users Revenue Fund for payment of monies diverted in FY 2004-2005.	Transportation, Appropriations (P), Rules		passed, House Transportation, 1/26
SB 1166	stopping vehicles on highways	Verschuur and (3)	As introduced, permits public transportation service vehicles to stop on specified state highway routes for the purposes of embarking and disembarking passengers. These highways must conform to specified conditions, including: a speed limit that does not exceed forty-five miles per hour, designated and marked stopping locations and signalized intersection controls. AMENDMENT: Permits the Director of ADOT and the appropriate local authority to determine if a pullout or any other method is necessary.		Transportation, Rules	passed as amended, Senate COW, 2/9
SB 1278	lottery proceeds; university scholarships	Hale and (10)	As introduced, establishes the Lottery Tuition Fund to pay for a percentage of tuition costs for in-state students who maintain at least 2.5 grade point average and served in the military.		Higher Education, Appropriations, Rules	committee assignment, 1/25
SB 1298	appropriation; highway fund repayment	Flake and (22)	As introduced, appropriates \$63,200,000 from the state General Fund in fiscal year 2006-2007 to the State Highway Fund for repayment of monies diverted last year for Department of Public Safety salaries.		Transportation, Appropriations, Rules	passed as amended, Senate Transportation, 2/7



BILL	TITLE	SPONSORS	SUMMARY	HOUSE COMMITTEES	SENATE COMMITTEES	ACTION
SB 1466	vehicle license tax reduction	Rios and (25)	As introduced, reduces the vehicle license tax by a percentage (up to 75%) depending on the fuel efficiency of a motor vehicle. Requires the use of General Fund dollars to replace any lost VLT dollars.		Transportation, Appropriations, Finance, Rules	committee assignment, 2/1
SB 1521	transportation board; Native American member	Hale and (2)	As introduced, requires that a Native American is a member of the transportation board.		Transportation, Rules	committee assignment, 2/2