

WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Arizona Transit Association

January 25, 2008

Week in Review

Given the seriousness of the budget shortfalls for both FY 2008 and FY 2009, all committee work was suspended for the week with the exception of the two Committees on Appropriations.

In addition to the typical disputes over budget priorities between the Executive and Legislative branches, the budget negotiations are further hampered by a disagreement over revenue projections for FY 2009. The Executive is currently predicting higher revenue forecasts for FY 2009 than the more conservative Joint Legislative Budget Committee staff.

While legislative leaders, from all four Caucuses, are working to develop a legislative budget plan, there must ultimately be an agreement on revenue in order for the Executive to effectively participate.

With respect to public transportation, the Executive budget continues to fund the Local Transportation Assistance Fund (LTAF II) at the statutory level. That is, consistent with existing law, after the multi-state lottery contributes \$31 million to the General Fund, the next \$18 million is available for distribution to counties and municipalities under the LTAF II program.

A Preview for the Week Ahead

HB 2091, relating to transportation mode delineation on the ballot, is scheduled to be heard in the House Committee on Transportation on Thursday, January 31st at 9:00 a.m.

Briefly, under HB 2091, any state or county transportation plan that includes more than one mode of transportation and that appears on a ballot for voter approval shall appear on the ballot in such a way that the ballot delineates each mode of transportation separately with the costs involved for each mode if approved. The ballot shall be written to allow the voter to vote yes or no on each transportation mode separately.

Comments

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LEGISLATIVE TRACKING REPORT

Arizona Transit Association

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BILL	TITLE	SPONSORS	SUMMARY	HOUSE COMMITTEES	SENATE COMMITTEES	ACTION
HB 2043	air quality; idling; study committee	Robson	As introduced, establishes a 13 member Vehicle Idling Study Committee to consider the issues involved in developing a program to reduce the amount of pollution caused by unnecessary diesel engine idling. The Committee is required to examine possible measures relating to cars, buses, trucks and mobile equipment. The Committee is repealed on October 1, 2009.	Environment, Rules		committee assignment, 1/14
HB 2049	ADOT rule revisions	McClure	As introduced, removes the ability for the State Transportation Board to adopt rules relating to priority programs, construction contracts, revenue bonds and local government airport grants. Removes the ability for the director of ADOT to adopt rules for the application for and the expenditure of all public transit monies and rules for the expenditure of monies in the State Highway Fund. Repeals statutes relating to the Vehicle Equipment Safety Compact.	Transportation, Rules		committee assignment, 1/14
HB 2133	transportation districts	Rios P	As introduced, states if after January 1, 2009, a county attains a population of 500,000 or more, a new transportation district will be formed consisting of that county.	Transportation, Ways and Means, Rules		committee assignment, 1/22
HB 2164	regional transportation authorities	Prezelski (2)	As introduced, allows a transportation authority to be established in any county that is a member of a regional council of governments. Allows a regional transportation authority to levy a transportation excise tax if approved in a county wide election.	Transportation, Counties and Municipalities, Rules		committee assignment, 1/16



BILL	TITLE	SPONSORS	SUMMARY	HOUSE COMMITTEES	SENATE COMMITTEES	ACTION
HB 2665	development fees; public transportation	Farley (7)	As introduced, allows a county or a municipality to assess development fees to offset the costs of public transportation.			awaiting committee assignment
HCR 2001	highway user revenue fund uses	Chad Campbell	As introduced, subject to voter approval at the next general election, amends the state constitution to state that HURF revenues shall be used for "transportation" purposes instead of "highway and street" purposes.	Transportation, Counties and Municipalities, Rules		committee assignment, 1/14
SB 1039	HOV lanes; restricted hours	Harper	As introduced, codifies in statute the HOV restricted times - between 5 and 9 am and between 3 and 7 pm.		Transportation, Rules	committee assignment, 1/14
SB 1041	HOV lane usage; hybrids	Harper	As introduced, allows hybrid vehicles in HOV lanes if the vehicle has at least 45% fuel efficiency in combined city-highway fuel economy.		Transportation, Rules	committee assignment, 1/14
SB 1042	toll roads; ADOT; private entity	Harper	As introduced, requires ADOT to issue an RFP for Construction of a toll road beginning at the Loop 303 and 75th avenue and ending in Prescott by December 31. 2009. ADOT must award the contract by the end of 2010. Removes the requirement that a reasonable alternative route must exist.		Transportation, Rules	committee assignment, 1/14
SB 1204	state transportation board; tribal representation	Hale (30)	As introduced, adds a representative of a tribal government to the State Transportation Board.			awaiting committee assignment