

GOODMAN ■ SCHWARTZ
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Arizona Transit Association

February 17, 2006

AzTA Legislation Passes out of Senate Unopposed

SB 1166, which would allow rural transit systems to operate on state highways under certain circumstances, passed out of the Senate with a vote of 28-0.

The Arizona Transit Association worked extensively with Senator Thayer Verschoor, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Transportation, to develop the legislation that is intended to benefit rural transit operations by allowing public transportation vehicles to stop on a controlled access highway.

In addition to AzTA, the bill received public support from the Arizona Department of Transportation, Rural Transportation Advocacy Council and the City of Mesa.

The legislation will be transferred to the Arizona House of Representatives where it is anticipated to be assigned to the House Committee on Transportation. Representative Andy Biggs, chairman of the Transportation Committee, is a co-sponsor of the legislation, along with Senator Verschoor.

Week in Review

There were no issues of concern for the Arizona Transit Association scheduled for the week beginning February 13th.

A Preview for the Week Ahead

While the House and Senate Committees on Transportation are both meeting the week of February 20th, no legislation relating to public transportation is currently scheduled.

Comments

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LEGISLATIVE TRACKING REPORT

Arizona Transit Association

February 17, 2006

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 Third Read 28-0, 2/16
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	passed, Senate Higher Education, 2/15
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. AMENDMENT: Inserts "Highway Revenue User Fund" for the referenced "State Highway Fund."		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	passed as amended, Senate Transportation, 2/14
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	passed as amended, Senate Transportation, 2/14