



# AzTA *ADVOCACY*

## Weekly Legislative Report

February 16, 2018

The 53rd Arizona Legislature, 2nd Regular Session, is roughly halfway through its work, with this week being the last week to hear bills in their house of origin. A total of 1,165 bills having been introduced, and next week will be a push to move bills that have survived thus far “across the mall” to begin the second half of their legislative journey. Next week will feature few committee hearings, but lots of action on the floor of the House and Senate.

HB 2166 (vehicle fees; alternative fuel VLT), sponsored by Rep. Campbell, does two things: (1) repeals the separate VLT classification for alternative fuel vehicles, and (2) permits the Director of ADOT to set a fee designed to fund the cost of DPS Highway Patrol functions. There is a companion bill in the Senate, SB 1146, with identical language. HB 2166 is ready for floor action in the House, while SB 1146 must first clear the Senate Rules Committee. We will continue to monitor these bills in the coming weeks.

SB 1147 (“county excise tax for transportation”), introduced by Sen. Bob Worsley (R-Mesa), Chair of the Senate Transportation and Technology Committee, states that the board of supervisors of any county would be permitted to submit to the voters a transportation plan funded by an excise tax. SB 1147 passed the Senate Transportation and Technology Committee two weeks ago with a unanimous vote, and is now ready to be considered by the full Senate. However, the bill has not been scheduled for a floor vote.

HB 2514 (HURF distribution; cities; towns; counties) states that, beginning in FY2019-20, the Department of Transportation would allocate \$18 million from revenues of the HURF fund to small counties and municipalities. Of the \$18 million, \$9 million would be distributed to counties with a population of less than 250,000 persons and \$9 million would be distributed to municipalities with a population of less than 7,500 persons. The House Transportation Committee approved the bill this week on a vote of 5-3. It now moves to the House Rules Committee.

There are a number of other pieces of legislation concerning LTAF, HURF, fuel taxes,

texting while driving and general ADOT revisions. Many of these bills have little chance at passage (with the exception of the ADOT bill, SB 1287, that is mostly technical changes), though we will continue to watch them for movement. For example, SB 1261, the texting-while-driving bill from Sen. Steve Farley, passed the Senate Transportation and Technology Committee this week on a unanimous vote, but has not moved any further in the process.

These issues are being tracked in our on-line legislative tracking service, which you can access [here](#) for automatically-updated AzTA bill information, with our comments in red.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me.

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