



*A research and advocacy association, supporting efficient, responsive county government in Arizona.*



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## County Officials Attend Opening Day; Governor Ducey Delivers Fourth State of the State Address



The 53<sup>rd</sup> Arizona State Legislature reconvened on Monday with Governor Ducey delivering his fourth state of the state address before a joint session of the House and Senate.

The Governor laid out his priorities for the upcoming year and beyond in his speech emphasizing the theme "*Spirit of Service*." He began the speech by highlighting the legacy of the first female Governor of Arizona, sharing, "What better way to honor and further Governor Rose Mofford's legacy than with a new historic achievement reached this past August, the highest percentage of female legislators of any state in the nation."

His speech identified a few specific issues and initiatives, including:

- Calling for a special session within the first days of the legislative session to combat the opioid crisis in Arizona.
- Cracking down on wrong-way driving, for drivers under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol, with more stringent sentencing requirements. In addition, Governor Ducey committed to putting resources into the "wrong-way drivers night watch."
- Ongoing efforts to reduce recidivism rates statewide, while highlighting that there has been no new spending on additional prison beds for the second year in a row.
- Continuing the focus on education and school funding. Governor Ducey stated "80 percent of our new budget priorities you'll see Friday will be for public education."
- Using state resources to continue funding the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in Arizona, despite lack of federal funding.

- Establishing responsible water policies during the 2018 Legislative Session, by building on the legacy of Arizona leaders who worked to protect Arizona's water in years past.

[Please click here to read Governor Ducey's State of the State Address.](#)

The Governor released his proposed budget plan earlier this afternoon which outlined his budget recommendations in relation to his proposed legislative priorities. CSA will share details once they become available.

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## 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day



It was a packed house on the Senate floor and in the gallery on Wednesday January 10th, as the Arizona State Capitol hosted the 23rd Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day. This annual event is held every year in cooperation with representatives from the state's Indian nations, where legislators and other elected officials are invited to pay tribute to the history and culture of American Indian peoples and their contributions to the prosperity and cultural diversity of the state of Arizona.

County supervisors from across the state joined legislators when the Joint Protocol Session kicked off the day. The invocation was provided by former chairman of the Kaibab Band of Paiutes, Mr. Roland Maldonado, as well as opening remarks from Senate President, Steven Yarbrough, and Speaker of the House, J.D. Mesnard.

The State of Tribal Nations Address was given by Ms. Jane Russell-Winiecki, Chairwoman of the Yavapai-Apache Nation; Mr. Edward Manuel, Chairman of the Tohono O'odham Nation; and Mr. Russell Begaye, President of the Navajo Nation. The afternoon events included an information session on the impact of domestic violence and sexual abuse, a native youth know workshop and an open house hosted by the Arizona School Facilities Board.

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## Legislative Session Snapshot

The 53<sup>rd</sup> Legislature, Second Regular Session kicked off on Monday, and today marks the fifth day of the legislative session. As of this morning 577 bills and 28 memorials/resolutions have been introduced. This number will increase exponentially as the legislature has not introduced fewer than 900 bills since 1993. Though, in 2017 only 1,079 bills were introduced, which was a significant decrease from the 1,247 bills that were introduced in the 2016 legislative session.

To view important dates for the legislative session, please click on the following links:

- [Senate deadlines](#)
- [House deadlines](#)

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## CSA Legislative Update

CSA's legislative agenda package has begun its legislative journey. Please see below for a list of our bills:

- 1) [HB 2190 county improvement districts: repayment agreements](#) (Mitchell)
- 2) [HB 2274 county contributions: hospitalization: medical: repeal](#) (Thorpe)
- 3) [SB 1038 state land payments: payment method](#) (Griffin)
- 4) [SB 1113 zoning violations: notice: service](#) (Fann)
- 5) Folder # 424 Public Road Maintenance and Primitive Designation (Cook)
- 6) Folder # 479 Resources for Juvenile Dependency Representation (Cobb)
- 7) Folder # TBD Transient Lodging Tax (Borrelli)
- 8) Super Majority to Levy County Excise Taxes

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## Joint Legislative Budget Committee Meets

The Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) met on Tuesday, to discuss items regarding the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), the School Facilities Board (SFB), the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) and the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA).

As required, JLBC reviewed AHCCCS's request to increase their capitation rates to deal with increased provider costs and the committee voted to approve the system's request. JLBC also considered a request from the SFB to

adjust the index used to determine the amount awarded for new school construction and voted to increase the cost-per-square-foot amount by 3.1 percent. Additionally, the committee discussed a request by ADE to increase the administrative funding available to the department to administer Empowerment Scholarship Accounts in the state and voted in favor of it.

Finally, JLBC reviewed ADOA's State Data Center Project, which relocated the state's data center to a private, third party location. The committee voted to provide a favorable review of the project and to get additional information from the department in regards to the project's future progress.

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## NACo Releases 2018 Legislative Priorities

Each year, the National Association of Counties (NACo) Board of Director's select the most pressing legislative and regulatory issues facing county governments, these issues become the organization's legislative priorities for the year.

Earlier this week NACo released their [2018 Legislative Priorities](#), which include:

1. Promote county infrastructure priorities
2. Support the Payment in Lieu of Taxes and Secure Rural Schools programs
3. Support policies to promote mental health, substance abuse treatment and justice reform
4. Protect the federal-state-local partnership for Medicaid
5. Work towards a more effective definition of Waters of the U.S.
6. Support county authority to collect existing sales tax
7. Support programs that assist counties to prevent and reduce poverty
8. Support a comprehensive long-term Farm Bill reauthorization



In addition to NACo's Legislative Priorities, the organization releases an annual "[American County Platform and Resolutions](#)", made of up issues raised during the subcommittee process.

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## NACo Webinar: Advancing Safety & Justice

On January 25, 2018, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. EST, the National Association of Counties (NACo) is hosting a webinar titled [County Roles and Opportunities in Advancing Safety and Justice through Collaboration](#). This is one of a three-part webinar series that will focus on key areas of local criminal justice systems that affect counties and offer strategies counties can employ to address these issues, make their justice systems work more effectively and efficiently, and ultimately lead to safer and healthier communities. This webinar will highlight ways counties can develop and enhance collaboration to improve information sharing within the justice system.

To register for the webinar, please [click here](#)

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## Next Week: Committee Agendas

- The full schedule for the Joint Appropriations Committee Budget Hearing and House Appropriation Subcommittee meetings can be found [here](#).
- The [Joint Appropriations Committee](#) will meet on Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 a.m. in House Hearing Room 1
- The [Senate Transportation and Technology Committee](#) will meet on Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 p.m. in Senate Hearing Room 1
- The [House Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Welfare](#) will meet on Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 5
- The [House Commerce Committee](#) will meet on Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 1.
- The [House Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee](#) will meet on Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 3
- The [House on Federalism, Property Rights and Public Policy](#) will meet on Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 4

- The [Senate Finance Committee](#) will meet on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 a.m. in Senate Hearing Room 1
- The [House Local and International Affairs Committee](#) will meet on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 a.m. in House Hearing Room 5
- The [House Appropriations Subcommittee on Education](#) will meet on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 a.m. in House Hearing Room 4
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- The [House Ways and Means Committee](#) will meet on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 a.m. in House Hearing Room 1
- The [Senate Government Committee](#) will meet on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 p.m. in Senate Hearing Room 109
- The [Senate Health and Human Services Committee](#) will meet on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 p.m. in Senate Hearing Room 1
- The [House Judiciary and Public Safety Committee](#) will meet on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 4
- The [House Transportation and Infrastructure](#) will meet on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 3
- The [Senate Judiciary Committee](#) will meet on Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 a.m. in Senate Hearing Room 109
- The [House Government Committee](#) will meet on Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. in House Hearing Room 1
- The [House Appropriations Subcommittee on Public Safety, Infrastructure and Resources](#) will meet on Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 a.m. in House Hearing Room 5
- The [House Committee on Land, Agriculture and Rural Affairs](#) will meet on Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 a.m. in House Hearing Room 3
- The [House Banking and Insurance Committee](#) will meet on Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 5
- The [Senate Natural Resources, Energy and Water Committee](#) will meet on Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 p.m. in Senate Hearing Room 109

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