



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

In the January 13, 2017, CSA Weekly Update:

- [County Officials Attend Opening Day: Gov. Ducey Delivers State of the State](#)
- [22nd Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day](#)
- [Arizona Commerce Authority Presents to County Managers](#)
- [AOC Presents on Fair Justice for All Task Force](#)
- [CSA Welcomes Spring Intern](#)
- [CSA Legislative Update](#)
- [This Week in Arizona History...](#)
- [Next Week: Committee Agendas](#)
- [Calendar](#)

County Officials Attend Opening Day; Gov. Ducey Delivers State of the State



On Monday, the 53rd Arizona State Legislature reconvened with Governor Ducey delivering his third state of the state address before a joint session of the House and Senate. In his address, the Governor laid out his priorities for the upcoming year and beyond in his speech entitled "[Boundless Opportunity](#)," focusing on the two-fold goal of creating opportunity and aiding vulnerable populations in our state.

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

- Increasing investment in education, especially in low-income, rural, and tribal schools by implementing all-day kindergarten statewide and increasing teacher pay
- Assisting people in poverty by expanding the length of time poor individuals can access Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits
- Infrastructure investment in cybersecurity and improved high speed internet access for schools statewide
- Protecting Arizonans who act as good Samaritans who break into hot cars to save children and pets

The Governor also shared that he signed an [executive order](#) earlier that day that gives inmates leaving prison access to the anti-addiction drug Vivitrol before they are released.

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.

[Top](#)

22nd Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day

It was a packed house on the Senate floor and in the gallery on Wednesday January 11th, as the Arizona State Capitol hosted the 22nd 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 Mr. Cranston Hoffman Jr., 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 Mr. Ronnie Lupe, Chairman of the White Mountain Apache Tribe; Ms. Bernadine Burnette, President of the Ft. McDowell Yavapai Nation; and Mr. Roland Maldonado the Chairman of the Kaibab Band of Paiutes. The afternoon events included an information session on indigenous food systems, horticulture, and livestock which was hosted by the Department of Agriculture, and an NYK Small Business and Entrepreneurship Workshop for students.

[Top](#)

Arizona Commerce Authority Presents to County Managers



Paul Shannon, Director of Arizona's Office of Economic Opportunity, spoke at the January 13 County Managers' Meeting on the implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. The Act aims to improve cooperation between state workforce development officials and local business leaders. It does this by creating Local Workforce Development Boards, which facilitate economic development by assisting with efforts to improve the local workforce. Local businesses are the customers of the Local Boards and they serve that customer base by providing high-quality potential employees. Director Shannon noted that when quality employees were produced, quantity would follow.

Director Shannon also emphasized the use of the Local Boards to enable cooperation between the various stakeholders who are involved in workforce development. Among these stakeholders are local elected officials, the business community, and the body of potential employees in a given area. Director Shannon said that the relationship between a Local Board and county government could be complicated but ultimately the Office of Economic Opportunity wanted to assist with continuous improvement, not just criticize the status quo.

[Top](#)

AOC Presents on Fair Justice for All Task Force

This week county supervisors from across the state joined state legislators, Arizona Supreme Court Justices, other elected officials and staff to discuss the Fair Justice for All Task Force presentation. The Arizona Supreme Court Chief Justice Scott Bales shared that the Fair Justice for All Task Force focuses on the idea of "justice for all" meaning that people should not be disparately punished because they are poor. He noted that while everyone should face consequences for violating



the law, criminal fines and civil penalties should not themselves promote a cycle of poverty by imposing excessive amounts of bail or unduly restricting people's ability to be gainfully employed.

Panel presenters included, Mr. Bo Zeerip, a Senior Trial Deputy District Attorney in Mesa County Colorado; Mr. Don Taylor, the Chief Presiding Judge of the Phoenix Municipal Court; Mr. Ronnie Lampard, the Criminal Justice Reform Task Force Director at the American Legislative Exchange Council; and Mr. Tim Murray the Executive Director for the Institute for Justice Planning.

Arizona Office of the Courts (AOC) Director of Government Affairs, Mr. Jerry Landau, outlined four legislative proposals AOC will be championing this year, including:

- Sentencing, court debts, and fine mitigation
- Driving violation, restricted licenses, and penalties
- Release procedures, hearings, and bonds
- Competency hearings, jurisdiction, and referral

For more information on the task force, please [click here](#).

[Top](#)

CSA Welcomes Spring Intern

CSA is pleased to welcome the newest member of our team, Angela Ruffalo, as our spring intern. A native of Arizona, Angela recently moved from Tucson to the Phoenix area.

Angela comes to CSA with a variety of previous work experiences which include administrative coordination for a not-for-profit organization based in Tucson, five years in South Korea as an English teacher/trainer, and most recently, she worked as a case manager for a children's behavioral health agency.

Angela earned her bachelor's degree in Family Studies and Human Development from the University of Arizona, she holds a master's degree in English from Northern Arizona University, and is currently pursuing her master's degree in public administration at Arizona State University.

[Top](#)

CSA Legislative Update

CSA's legislative agenda continues to move forward. Please see below for a list of our bills:

- 1) [HB 2065 waste tire disposal: continuation](#) (Coleman)
- 2) [HB 2230 intergovernmental public transportation authority: taxation](#) (Shooter)
- 3) [HB 2258 county contributions: hospitalization: medical: repeal](#) (Thorpe)
- 4) [HCR 2011 motor vehicle fuel taxes](#) (Campbell)
- 5) Folder #791 expedited property tax valuation appeals (Campbell)
- 6) Folder #326 speed limits: unpaved roads (John)
- 7) Awaiting Folder # public road maintenance and primitive designation (TBD)

[Top](#)

This Week in Arizona History...

On January 11, 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt established the Grand Canyon National Monument.

The Grand Canyon is 277 miles long and a mile deep in some places. It has been inhabited by Native Americans for thousands of years and is one of the premier hiking, backpacking, and river rafting locations in the world.

Photo Source: [Wikimedia Commons](#)

[Top](#)



Next Week: Committee Agendas

- The [House and Senate Appropriations Committees](#) will be conducting a joint meeting on Tuesday, January 17th, at 9:00 a.m. in House Hearing Room 1.

- The [House Commerce Committee](#) will meet on Tuesday January 17th, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 1.
- The [House Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee](#) will meet on Tuesday, January 17th, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 3.
- The [House Federalism, Property Rights, and Public Policy Committee](#) will meet on Tuesday, January 17th, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 4.
- The [House Appropriations Health and Welfare Subcommittee](#) will meet on Tuesday, January 17th, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 5.
- The [Senate Transportation and Technology Committee](#) will meet on Tuesday, January 17th, at 2:00 p.m. in Senate Hearing Room 1.
- The [House Local and International Affairs Committee](#) will meet on Wednesday, January 18th, at 9:00 a.m. in House Hearing Room 5.
- The [House Appropriations Education Subcommittee](#) will meet on Wednesday, January 18th, at 9:00 a.m. in House Hearing Room 4.
- The [House Judiciary and Public Safety Committee](#) will meet on Wednesday, January 18th, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 4.
- The [House Transportations and Infrastructure Committee](#) will meet on Wednesday, January 18th, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 3.
- The [Senate Government Committee](#) will meet on Wednesday, January 18th, at 2:00 p.m. in Senate Hearing Room 109.
- The [Senate Health and Human Services](#) will meet on Wednesday, January 18th, at 2:00 p.m. in Senate Hearing Room 1.

[Top](#)



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