



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

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A Few New Rules at 1700 W. Washington Street

Each year majority legislative leadership has the ability to make changes to chamber rules in both the Arizona State House and Arizona State Senate. With new leadership presiding over both chambers, there were a few new interesting rules in both chambers that made it into the process for 2017.

In the House, they now have a new type of floor calendar, called a "Committee of the Whole (COW) Consent." The new calendar is intended to include bills that were amended in committee and approved by unanimous vote in committee. They are then allowed to be adopted on the floor during a mass motion, unless a lawmaker objects and asks to pull a bill out for additional discussion on the floor. Also in the House, agendas are required to be posted 5 business days prior to a committee hearing and no bills are permitted to be added to an agenda after that time frame. The Senate has adopted the same policy. Prior to this year, there was just a two day notice requirement for committee hearings in both chambers. Additionally, the House has essentially eliminated the ability of members to make use of "strike-everything" amendments in the chamber, though they may continue to use them in the Senate.



To read all the Senate Rules, please [click here](#).

To read all the House Rules, please [click here](#).

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JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights

Monthly Fiscal Highlights for December 2016 were released last week by the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) announcing monthly General Fund revenues of \$855.6 million, an increase of 1.4% over the prior year. In comparison to the FY2017 enacted budget, actual revenues were down 3.2% for the month but up 0.8% year-to-date (YTD). Total YTD General Fund revenue collections are now \$4.56 billion, \$38.0 million above forecast. JLBC attributed most of the loss for the month on individual income tax returns for filers with extensions until October. Individual Income Tax revenues had been strong through November but were down \$51.4 million against December forecast and are now down \$9.1 million YTD, or 0.3% against forecast.

Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF) collections of \$117.3 million in December are \$4.2 million higher than forecast, representing a 4.7% increase compared to December 2015. YTD collections are up 4.1% over prior year.

December General Fund spending totaled \$616.4 million with YTD spending of \$5.5 billion. This represents a \$13.3 million increase from December 2015 and a \$264.6 million YTD decrease from fiscal year 2016.

The State's Budget Stabilization Fund (or Rainy Day Fund) has a current balance of \$456.1 million.

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Affiliate Groups Meet: ACDEHSA & AACPD

ACDEHSA Meets

On Wednesday, the Arizona County Directors of Environmental Health Services Association (ACDEHSA) met to discuss a variety of issues and heard presentations on the Public School Drinking Water Lead Screening program that is being implemented statewide by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ). Additionally, ADEQ presented on their legislative initiatives, including septage hauling.



CSA staff gave a legislative update on the 2017 Legislative Session.



AACPD Meets

On Thursday, the Arizona Association of County Planning Directors (AACPD) held their monthly meeting. Discussions covered topics ranging from participation in CACCEO and the code enforcement officer certification program, to hearing officer orders and judgments to child welfare agency rules.

CSA staff also gave a legislative update on the 2017 Legislative Session.

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CSA Legislative Update

Today marks the 19th day of the 53rd Legislative Session. As of today, 754 bills have been introduced. Customarily, around 1200 bills are introduced each session prior to the bill introduction deadline (Monday for Senate Bills and February 10th for House Bills).

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), passed out of the House Energy, Environment & Natural Resources Committee, is awaiting Rules.
- 2) [HB 2230 intergovernmental public transportation authority: taxation](#) (Shooter), referred to House Ways & Means, Transportation & Infrastructure committees.
- 3) [HB 2258 county contributions: hospitalization: medical: repeal](#) (Thorpe), referred to House Health, Appropriations committees.
- 4) [HB 2332 property tax valuation appeals](#) (Campbell), referred to House Ways & Means committee.
- 5) [HCR 2011 motor vehicle fuel taxes](#) (Campbell), referred to House Ways & Means, Transportation & Infrastructure committees.
- 6) Folder #326 speed limits; unpaved roads (John)
- 7) Folder #1250 public road maintenance and primitive designation (Griffin)

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Next Week: Committee Agendas

- The [House Banking and Insurance Committee](#) will meet on Monday, January 30, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 5.
- The [House Education Committee](#) will meet on Monday, January 30, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 1.
- The [House Military, Veterans, & Regulatory Affairs Committee](#) will meet on Monday, January 30, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 3.
- The [Senate Commerce & Public Safety Committee](#) will meet on Monday, January 30, at 2:00 p.m. in Senate Hearing Room 1.
- The [Senate Natural Resources, Energy, and Water Committee](#) will meet on Monday, January 30, at 2:00 p.m. in Senate Hearing Room 109.

- The [House Appropriations Health and Welfare Subcommittee](#) will meet on Tuesday, January 31, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 5.
- The [House Commerce Committee](#) will meet on Tuesday, January 31, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 1.
- The [House Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee](#) will meet on Tuesday, January 31, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 3.
- The [House Federalism, Property Rights, & Public Policy Committee](#) will meet on Tuesday, January 31, at 2:00 p.m. in House Hearing Room 4.
- The [Senate Appropriations Committee](#) will meet on Tuesday, January 31, at 2:00 p.m. in Senate Hearing Room 109.
- The [Senate Transportation & Technology Committee](#) will meet on Tuesday, January 31, at 2:00 p.m. in Senate Hearing Room 1.

For all committee listings, please [click here](#).

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Dinosaur Wars in the Arizona Legislature

Did you know that Arizona almost had an official state dinosaur? After the meteoric rise in popularity of *Jurassic Park* in the early 1990's, then Arizona State Senator John Huppenthal attempted to make one little boy's dream come true by introducing a bill naming the Dilophosaurus as Arizona's official state dinosaur. Senator Huppenthal hoped it would increase children's interest in the legislative process, but he could have never imagined the controversy that would ensue.



When the bill dropped in January 1998, the topic became political dino-mite when Southern Arizonans vigorously opposed the choice of the Dilophosaurus due to its preference for the northern Arizona climate and its carnivorous, poison-spitting ways. Further clouding the debate was the fact that the Dilophosaurus' remains were taken from Navajo lands in the 1940's without permission, leaving Arizona without its proposed dino-to-be. Instead, they recommended the Sonorasaurus – a gentler, plant-eating dinosaur found only in Southern Arizona, which at the time was being excavated near Sonoita.

After being stalled in committee for months, Arizona legislators served up some Jurassic pork, recommending a compromise that both dinosaurs be recognized. Unfortunately for Senator Huppenthal and the schoolchildren of Arizona, the measure ignited intense debate yet again, this time in the House, where it died a quick and fiery death. Sadly, Arizona was left without an official state dinosaur.

Source: [Understanding the Arizona Constitution](#), by Toni McClory, 2010 The Arizona Board of Regents

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NACO Webinar: Stepping Up Initiative

On February 2, 2017, from 2:00pm-3:15 pm EST, the National Association of Counties is hosting a webinar titled, "Stepping Up: Introduction to the Six Questions County Leaders Need to Ask." The webinar will focus on the newly released report, *Reducing the Number of People with Mental Illnesses in Jail: Six Questions County Leaders Need to Ask* ("Six Questions"). During this webinar, the first in the 2017 Stepping Up webinar series, a national expert from the Council of State Governments Justice Center will provide an overview of the Six Questions and Four Key Measures of Success and will describe how the strategies provided within the report can assist counties in their Stepping Up efforts. Then, county officials will share how they have been using the Six Questions in their own communities to help further their initiatives' efforts to reduce mental illness in their jails.

For more information on this webinar, please [click here](#).

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

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