



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

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PSPRS Advisory Committee Meets



The Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) Advisory Committee (Committee) met this week to discuss potential recommendations for local board consolidation, possible pension-related legislative initiatives, and to establish protocols for stakeholder communication.

Much of the meeting focused on hearing stakeholder perspective on proposals to consolidate local board functions for employers with fewer than 250 employees in the system. Currently, there are 233 local boards in the state and about 800 citizens serving on these boards. Duties of the boards range from basic administrative functions to reviewing member medical issues and determining eligibility for disability benefits. Everyone agrees that employees deserve an open, fair and efficient process to review these matters. The Committee is evaluating the feasibility of consolidating the function in order to improve the service going forward. At the meeting, committee members heard testimony from labor representatives sharing their perspective on issues that must be evaluated as part of a reform process. Ultimately, the Committee is responsible for forwarding a recommendation to the PSPRS Board of Trustees

The 10-member Committee was created by the legislature to improve communication between stakeholders of the PSPRS system and the PSPRS Board of Trustees. The Committee includes representation from labor groups and employers, including counties.

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Ad Hoc Committee on Tax Treatment of Digital Goods & Services



The Ad Hoc Committee on Tax Treatment of Digital Goods and Services (Committee) held its third meeting this week. The Committee is charged with looking at the current tax treatment of digital goods and services both in Arizona and other states and to discuss potential statutory or regulatory actions to address this nuanced topic.

During the hearing there were a variety of presentations from the business community, including from the Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, Adopt Technologies, the University of Phoenix, CenturyLink, DISH, GoDaddy,

JDA Software, and Phoenix Internet.

To read the Committee's charge, [click here](#). To watch the hearing, [click here](#).

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NACo Webinar: Rail Manufacturing in the U. S.

On Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2017, from 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm (EST) the National Association of Counties (NACo) is hosting a webinar titled *Putting America to Work: Rail Manufacturing in the U. S.* During the webinar, senior executives

from Siemens Corporation, Alstom, Caterpillar/Progress Rail, and GE Transportation will provide a brief summary of their rail manufacturing profile, the types of jobs/skills required in their companies, manufacturing innovations, customers and current industrial trends. Following the presentations, the panelists will discuss current opportunities and engage in a further discussion on steps to retain and expand these well-paying jobs that will increase employment and economic development for states and localities across the nation.

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

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

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EPA to Hold WOTUS Hearings

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of the Army will hold ten teleconferences to hear from stakeholders regarding recommendations to revise the definition of "Waters of the United States" under the Clean Water Act (CWA).

The teleconferences will run throughout the fall on Tuesdays from 1:00 pm – 3:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

To learn more about the hearing schedule, including how to sign up for the teleconferences, please [click here](#).

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