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



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## Yavapai County Board of Supervisors Appoints Steve Pierce



This week the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors appointed Steve Pierce to fill the Legislative District 1 vacancy in the House of Representatives. Pierce was appointed on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, and was sworn into the House of Representatives the same day by Vice Chief Justice Robert M. Brutinel.

Representative Pierce's family has been ranching in Arizona since 1915. He moved to Prescott, Arizona while in grade school, and he is a graduate of the University of Arizona. He brings essential legislative experience to the position, having previously served in the Senate from 2009 to 2016 and as Senate

President during the 2012 Legislative Session. Representative Pierce served as chair of the Natural Resources Committee, the Vice-Chair of the Transportation Committee, and was a member of the Judiciary Committee.

CSA extends our congratulations to Representative Pierce.



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## Yavapai County Supervisor Jack Smith Attends 2019 Prison Reform Summit



Yavapai County Supervisor Jack Smith attended the 2019 Prison Reform Summit and the First Step Act Celebration, which included a Criminal Justice Reform Strategy Session. The events held at the White House on April 1, 2019, featured panel discussion on next steps to make America safer.

The bipartisan criminal justice reform bill, the First Step Act of 2018 (Act) ([S.756](#)) was signed by President Trump on December 21, 2018. The Act made reforms to the criminal justice system focused on reducing recidivism, sentencing reform and credit for good behavior. President Trump said, "Americans from across the political spectrum can unite around prison reform legislation that will reduce crime while giving our fellow citizens a chance at redemption."

To view information from the White House on the Act please, [click here](#).

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## Governor Ducey Signs 2020 U.S. Census Executive Order



On April 1<sup>st</sup>, Governor Ducey issued an executive order that created the Arizona Complete Count Committee (AZCCC) for the 2020 U.S. Census that will take place on April 1, 2020. The AZCCC is tasked with developing a strategic communications plan and developing targeted plans to address populations historically undercounted in past census counts. Another main objective of the AZCCC is to partner with local complete count committees to "provide state-level perspective, guidance, and coordination." The legislature, state agencies, rural communities, tribal communities, universities, faith-based organizations, community-based organizations, county governments and municipal governments are among the entities that will be represented on the AZCCC. To read Governor Ducey's Executive Order, please click [here](#).

CSA has compiled an overview of the county role in the 2020 census and redistricting process which can be found [here](#). CSA will continue to update this document as Census Day 2020 approaches. For more resources on the 2020 Census, please visit the U.S. Census website, [here](#).

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## Spring in Arizona

Wildflowers generally bloom throughout Arizona from mid-March to late April. However, flowers can appear as early as February and last into June. Mid-morning is usually the best time to view wildflowers, as it is after many blooms open and before the midday heat affects them. Take a look at some photos of springtime flowers, taken across Arizona. What a beautiful state we live in!

To read more about great places to see wildflowers in AZ, please click [here](#).



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## Legislative Session Snapshot

Today, April 5<sup>th</sup> is the 82<sup>nd</sup> day of session. During the session 1,289 bills and 98 memorials/resolutions have been introduced. So far, there have been 46 bills and 10 memorials/resolutions that have been passed.

This week was the regularly scheduled meetings for Appropriations, in which both the House and Senate had long agendas and a number of strike-everything amendments, causing the House Appropriations Committee to split the agenda into two days. We expect floor activity to ramp up next week as the Legislature approaches the last day to hear bills in Conference Committee on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

Budget negotiations are underway and both chambers are having small group discussions on budget requests, but there are only three short weeks until they reach the 100<sup>th</sup> Day of Session.

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

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

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## CSA Legislative Update

The status of CSA's legislative agenda package is as follows:

- 1) CSA Legislative Budget Priorities
  - [SB 1140 county contributions; committed youth; repeal](#) (*Leach*), is waiting in Rules as the budget is negotiated.
  - [HB 2429 appropriations; EORP contributions; counties](#) (*Thorpe*), failed on 3<sup>rd</sup> Read for political reasons unrelated to the bill on Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - [SB 1293 appropriations; EORP contributions; counties](#) (*Gowan*), passed out of the House Appropriations Committee on Wednesday with a vote of 11-0.
  - [HB 2702 TPT; marketplace facilitators; nexus](#) (*Toma*), pending action by the House Rules Committee, but is not expected to move forward and will need to be part of budget negotiations or part of a comprehensive tax package.
- 2) [HB 2467 NOW: committees; west basin water users](#) (*Cobb*), is pending 3<sup>rd</sup> Read in the Senate.
- 3) [SB 1084 funeral; last illness; expenses; lien](#) (*Borrelli*), is pending 3<sup>rd</sup> Read in the Senate.

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## Next Week: Committee Agendas

- The [Senate Rules Committee](#) will meet on Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 pm in Senate Caucus Room 1
- The [Joint Legislative Budget Committee](#) will meet on Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 am in House Hearing Room 1

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