

2023 Legislative Wrap Up

56th Legislature – 1st Regular Session

The Arizona Legislature adjourned for the year on July 31, 2023 at 5:16 p.m. following a session that lasted a record-breaking 208 days. During the session, 1,675 bills were introduced, 348 of which were passed by the Legislature. Governor Katie Hobbs signed 205 bills into law and vetoed 143 bills (also record-smashing number of vetoes). The Secretary of State received 35 memorials and resolutions. The general effective date for most legislative acts without an emergency clause or specified later date is October 30, 2023.

Below please find summaries of the key bills that APMA supported, opposed or monitored during the 2023 session. If you have any questions or would like a copy of any bill or chaptered law, please contact Amanda Gray.

FUEL & CONVENIENCE STORE ISSUES

SB 1501 – Electric Vehicle Charging Stations (Sen. Frank Carroll)

Would have prevented utilities from using ratepayer funds to build EV charging stations. Passed Senate Commerce Committee. Not brought to Senate Floor. Will not become law.

SB 1177 – Pulser Manipulation Device; Prohibition (Sen. Anthony Kern)

Would have made it a class 3 felony to possess, knowingly use or manufacture a pulser manipulation device.

Passed Senate. Not brought to the House floor. Will not become law.

HB 2630 – Tobacco Products; Vapor Products (Rep. Kevin Payne)

Would ban vapor products on school grounds; Would prevent cities from regulating tobacco and vapor products; Would create a retailer registry at Arizona Department of Revenue; Would align state age of purchase with federal law of 21

APMA was part of an industry coalition supporting this statewide solution.

Failed to pass through House Regulatory Affairs Committee.

TRANSPORTATION & FUNDING ISSUES

SB 1102 – Transportation Tax; Maricopa County; Election (Sen. Frank Carroll, Striker by Rep. David Cook)

For Maricopa County voters, will place on the fall 2024 general election ballot the question of whether to extend a dedicated half-cent sales tax (commonly called the proposition 400 extension) and continue regional transportation investment.

The current prop 400 tax will expire in 2025. This plan would extended the tax by 20 years. Revenues would have been spent on:

40.5% freeways and other routes

22.5% major arterial streets and regional programs

37% public transportation– but no more than 5% of revenues annually on light rail

Signed by Governor on August 1.

SB 1340 – Toll Roads; Conversion; Prohibition (Sen. Juan Mendez)

Prohibits a county board from granting an application for a toll road that will be converted from a publicly funded or maintained street or highway. Similar prohibition for ADOT.

Signed by Governor on May 8. Chap. 129, Laws 2023.

HB 2288 – Roundabouts; Right of Way; Large Vehicles (Rep. David Cook)

Permits large vehicles (40 feet total length or 10 feet total width) to deviate from lane when approaching a roundabout; gives large vehicles right of way in roundabout; requires signage.

Signed by Governor on May 1. Chap. 107, Laws 2023.

AGENCY ISSUES

HB 2208 – Department of Liquor License and Control, Continuation (Rep. Wilmeth)

Continues the statutory life of the Department of Liquor License and Control by eight years to July 1, 2031.

Signed by Governor on April 17. Chap. 58, Laws 2023.

OTHER ISSUES

Budget Bills

The FY 2023 budget passed on a bipartisan basis and includes investments in affordable housing, building roads, bridges and broadband access, expanding children's health insurance and investing in public schools. The budget is structurally balanced and provides \$18 Billion in annual spending. The budget preserves the school voucher program signed last year by Governor Ducey.

It fully funds the Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund without any sweeps from the UST RF.

Signed by Governor Hobbs on May 12.

Below please find titles of the bills that APMA monitored during the 2023 session that did not pass or were vetoed by Governor Hobbs:

SB1063 & HB2061 – Food; Municipal Tax; Exemption (Rep. Biasiucci & Sen. Borrelli) - Vetoed

SB1138 – Business; Discrimination Prohibition; Social Criteria (Sen. Hoffman)

SB1312 – Vehicle Mileage; Tracking; Tax; Prohibitions (Sen. Hoffman)

SB1664 – Weights and Measures; Penalties; Appropriation (Sen. Miranda)

SB1693 – Government Vehicles; Electric; Appropriation (Sen. Epstein)

HB2003 – Corporate Income Tax; Rates (Rep. Livingston)

HB2241 – Electric Vehicles; Charging; Pilot (Rep. Aguilar)

HB2254 – Rulemaking; Regulatory costs; Legislative Ratification (Rep. Wilmeth) – Vetoed

HB2404 – Franchises; Regulation (Rep. Travers)

HB2555 – Businesses; Requirement to Accept Cash (Rep. Chaplik)

HB2707 – Motor Fuel Tax Suspension (Rep. Kolodin)

HB2769 – Ready to Drink Spirits Products; Tax (Rep. Wilmeth)

HCR2013 – Clean and Healthy Environment (Rep. De Los Santos)

Below please find titles of other bills that APMA opposed during the 2023 session:

SB1345 – Employment; Employee Work Scheduling (Sen. Mendez)

SB1359 – Polystyrene Foam Food Packaging; Prohibition (Sen. Mendez)
SB1362 & HB2129 – Wage Disclosure; Employee Rights (Sen. Mendez & Rep. Salman)
SB1678 – Electronic Smoking Devices; Retail Licensing (Sen. Epstein)
HB2127 & HB2240 – Minimum Wage Increase (Rep. Salman & Rep. Aguilar)
HB2128 – Employers; Employee Salary History; Prohibition (Rep. Salman)
HB2130 – Family and Medical Leave; Coverage (Rep. Salman)
HB2131 – Overtime Pay (Rep. Salman)
HB2747 – Retail Licensing; Electronic Smoking Devices (Rep. Terech)
HB2348 – Auxiliary Containers; Regulation; Prohibition; Repeal (Rep. Contreras)

None of these bills were successful this year.