

55th Legislature
2nd Regular Session (2022)



Members of the House Republican Majority continued to lead Arizona forward in the 55th Legislature's 2nd Regular Session (2022), meeting the needs of the state and special challenges of its time.

In the pages ahead, we document this leadership, evidenced in the policies that were successfully passed and implemented, and advancing our vision to make Arizona the best state in which to live, work, and play.

Land, Agriculture & Rural Affairs

1. HB2130 (Griffin) provides liability protection to state land lessees who are unable to exclude the public from the property.
2. HB2182 (Cook) establishes the Livestock Operator Fire and Flood Assistance Grant Program which provides grants to landowners, lessees and livestock operators for infrastructure projects that are required as a result of wildfires or wildfire-related flooding.
3. HB2181 (Cook) forbids the Arizona Game and Fish Commission from prohibiting an individual from taking a wolf that is actively threatening or attacking a person, livestock, or other domestic animal.
4. HB2649 (Dunn) designates the Yuma Proving Ground as a land where the United States and Arizona have concurrent criminal jurisdiction once the Governor grants such jurisdiction once a memorandum of understanding with the appropriate county sheriffs has been signed.

Natural Resources, Energy & Water

5. SB1740/HB2873 (Kerr/Griffin) provides over \$1.2 billion dollars over the next three years for water augmentation and conservation projects and empowers the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority, with additional authority, to not only fund a water project, but to also facilitate those projects. This piece of legislation, coupled with other bills from this session, place this year's legislative session on par with that of the famed 1980 session that produced the Arizona Groundwater Management Act.
6. SB1564 (Shope/Dunn S/E amendment) creates a \$30 million dollar pilot program to provide grants for on-farm irrigation efficiency systems and projects and collects data on their effectiveness.
7. HB2101 (Griffin) repealed the unimplemented Retail Electric Competition rules adopted in 1998 by the Legislature in favor of reevaluating Arizona's energy policy in future legislative sessions.
8. HB2129 (Griffin) authorizes ADEQ to adopt all rules necessary to operate the direct potable reuse of treated recycled wastewater program and appropriates \$1.5 million this year and next to develop this program.
9. HB2411 (Griffin) authorizes Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to establish and operate a program to regulate disposal of coal combustion residuals.
10. The 55th Legislature continued to prioritize Arizona's water future by investing or reallocating over \$1.4B, as follows:
 - \$1B (over the next three years) – Long Term Water Augmentation Fund, primarily to bring out of state water to Arizona.
 - \$200M – Water Conservation Grant Fund, to fund water conservation measures in Arizona.
 - \$160M – Previous year's appropriation to the Drought Mitigation Revolving Fund is rolled into the Water Supply Revolving Development Fund to be paired with the \$40M already in the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund.
 - \$30M – On-farm irrigation efficiency pilot program at U of A Cooperative Extension to fund agriculture specific irrigation conservation systems.
 - \$10M – Water Supply Development Revolving Fund to provide grants to counties in eastern Arizona.
 - \$6.4M-Water Quality Fee Fund to fund required water quality programs.
 - \$3.5M-Department of Water Resources to conduct ongoing water supply and demand assessment.
 - \$3M (over two years)-Water Quality Fee Fund to develop the Direct Potable Reuse standards.
 - \$1M-Water Protection Fund for projects to conserve and protect water.
 - \$500,000-Natural Resource Users Law & Policy Center to support unrepresented small landowners in water adjudication.