ARIZONA STATE SENATE

57TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE ON
REGULATORY AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY

DATE: February 19, 2025 **TIME:** 8:30 A.M. **ROOM:** SHR 109

CHAIRMAN: Senator Shawnna Bolick **VICE-CHAIRMAN:** Senator Frank Carroll

ANALYST: Jason Theodorou

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members	Pr	Ab	Ex
Senator Epstein	X		
Senator Fernandez	X		
Senator Leach	X		
Senator Ortiz	X		
Senator Payne	X		
Senator Carroll, Vice-Chairman	X		
Senator Bolick, Chairman	X		

BILLS

Bill Number	Disposition
SB 1071	DP
SB 1182	DPA/SE
SB 1215	DPA
SB 1228	DP
SB 1234	DPA
SB 1237	DPA/SE
SB 1296	DP
SB 1307	DP
SB 1357	DPA
SB 1395	DPA/SE
SB 1507	DPA
SB 1514	DP
SB 1527	DP
SB 1529	DP
SB 1582	DPA
SB 1584	DPA
SB 1586	DP
SB 1588	DP
SB 1612	DP
SB 1627	DPA
SB 1658	DPA
SB 1721	DPA/SE

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting here:
https://www.azleg.gov/videoplayer/?clientID=6361162879&eventID=2025021102

Chairman Bolick called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. and attendance was noted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Senator Bolick stated that without objection, the minutes of February 13, 2025 were approved as distributed.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

SB 1071 – SNAP; TANF; public welfare; verification – DO PASS

Jason Theodorou, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Research Analyst, explained SB 1071.

Senator Kavanagh, bill sponsor, further explained SB 1071.

MJ Simpson, William E. Morris Institute for Justice, testified in opposition to SB 1071.

Geraldine Miranda, Arizona Center for Economic Progress, testified in opposition to SB 1071.

Ashley St. Thomas, Public Policy Director, Arizona Food Bank Network, testified in opposition to SB 1071.

Roy Lenardson, FGA Action, testified in support of SB 1071 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Melanie Richards, Arizona Department of Economic Security, testified as neutral on SB 1071 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Kavanagh answered questions posed by the Committee.

> **Senator Carroll moved that SB 1071 be returned with a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 4-3-0 (Attachment 1).**

Senators Epstein, Fernandez, Leach and Ortiz explained their votes.

SB 1234 – animal cruelty; failure to treat – DO PASS AMENDED

Jason Theodorou, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Research Analyst, explained SB 1234 and the 4-page Bolick amendment to SB 1234 dated 02/18/2025 at 4:20 p.m. (Attachment A).

Senator Bolick, bill sponsor, further explained SB 1234.

Rachel Mitchel, Maricopa County Attorney, testified in support of SB 1234.

Brittany Bingold, Arizona United Animal Care & Business Coalition, testified in support of SB 1234.

Dr. Steven Hansen, President, CEO, Arizona Humane Society, testified in support of SB 1234.

Tracy Miller, Director of Field Operations, Arizona Humane Society, distributed a document entitled "SB 1234 A Bill to Strengthen Arizona's Animal Cruelty Statutes" (Attachment B) and testified in support of SB 1234.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1234 with a DO PASS recommendation.

Senator Carroll moved the 4-page Bolick amendment to SB 1234 dated 02/18/2025 at 4:20 p.m. (Attachment A) be ADOPTED. The motion CARRIED by voice vote.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1234 AS AMENDED receive a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 7-0-0 (Attachment 2).

Senator Bolick explained her vote.

SB 1357 – department of housing; continuation. – DO PASS AMENDED

Jenn Ramirez-Mendoza, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Research Intern, explained SB 1357 and the 8-page Bolick amendment to SB 1357 dated 02/18/2025 at 1:51 p.m. (Attachment C).

Senator Bolick further explained the amendment.

Michelle Jameson, Executive Director, U.S. VETS Phoenix, testified in support of SB 1357.

Senator Dunn, bill sponsor, further explained SB 1357 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Michael Smithson, representing self, testified in support of SB 1357.

Joan Serviss, Director, Arizona Department of Housing, testified in support of SB 1357.

Owen Metz, Dominium, testified in support of SB 1357 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Reid Butler, Butler Housing Company, testified in support of SB 1357.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1357 with a DO PASS recommendation.

Senator Carroll moved the 8-page Bolick amendment to SB 1357 dated 02/18/2025 at 1:51 p.m. (Attachment C) be ADOPTED. The motion CARRIED by voice vote.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1357 AS AMENDED receive a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 7-0-0 (Attachment 3).

Senator Epstein explained her vote.

SB 1584 – public employees; merit; hiring practices – DO PASS AMENDED

Jenn Ramirez-Mendoza, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Research Intern, explained SB 1584 and the 26-line Leach amendment to SB 1584 dated 02/17/2025 at 2:59 p.m. (Attachment D).

Senator Shamp, bill sponsor, further explained SB 1584 and answered questions posed the Committee.

Korinne McClemens, representing self, testified in opposition to SB 1584.

Senator Bolick offered comments.

Brian Sikma, Do No Harm, testified in support of SB 1584 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1584 with a DO PASS recommendation.

Senator Carroll moved the 26-line Leach amendment to SB 1584 dated 02/17/2025 at 2:59 p.m. (Attachment D) be ADOPTED. The motion CARRIED by voice vote.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1584 AS AMENDED receive a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 5-2-0 (Attachment 4).

Senators Fernandez, Ortiz, Epstein and Carroll explained their votes.

SB 1586 – gender transition procedures; provider liability – DO PASS

Kati Pratt, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Assistant Research Analyst, explained SB 1586.

Senator Shamp, bill sponsor, further explained SB 1586 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Jeanne Woodbury, American Civil Liberties Union of Arizona, testified in opposition to SB 1586 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Ortiz answered questions posed by the Committee.

Brian Sikma, Do No Harm, testified in support of SB 1586 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Shamp offered comments.

Senator Carroll moved that SB 1586 be returned with a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 4-3-0 (Attachment 5).

Senators Epstein, Ortiz and Fernandez explained their votes.

SB 1588 – naturopathic physicians; board; investigations; scope – DO PASS

Kati Pratt, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Assistant Research Analyst, explained SB 1588.

Senator Shamp, bill sponsor, further explained SB 1588.

Dr. Colleen Huber, Medical Director, Nature Works Best Clinic, testified in support of SB 1588.

Senator Carroll moved that SB 1588 be returned with a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 4-1-2 (Attachment 6).

SB 1296 – unemployment benefits; requirements; disqualifications; determinations – DO PASS

Kati Pratt, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Assistant Research Analyst, explained SB 1296.

Senator Finchem, bill sponsor, further explained SB 1296.

Mark Cardenas, International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail & Transportation Workers, testified in opposition to SB 1296 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Brenda Munoz Furnish, William E. Morris Institute for Justice, testified in opposition to SB 1296 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Brian Sikma, FGA Action, testified in support of SB 1296.

Melanie Richards, Arizona Department of Economic Security, testified as neutral on SB 1296 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Blake Lister, Opportunity Arizona, testified in opposition to SB 1296 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Finchem offered comments and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Carroll moved that SB 1296 be returned with a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 4-3-0 (Attachment 7).

Senators Epstein and Ortiz explained their votes.

SB 1182 – landlords; property manager; contract information. – DO PASS AMENDED/STRIKE EVERYTHING

Jason Theodorou, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Research Analyst, explained the 2-page Ortiz strike everything amendment to SB 1182 dated 02/17/2025 at 12:06 p.m. (Attachment E).

Senator Ortiz further explained the strike everything amendment.

Spencer Kamps, Home Builders Association of Central Arizona, testified in support of the strike everything amendment and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Jessie Atencio, General Manager, Premier Risk Management, testified in support of the strike everything amendment.

Senator Leach moved SB 1182 with a DO PASS recommendation.

Senator Leach moved the 2-page Ortiz strike everything amendment to SB 1182 dated 02/17/2025 at 12:06 p.m. (Attachment E) be ADOPTED. The motion CARRIED by voice vote.

Senator Leach moved SB 1182 AS AMENDED receive a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 6-0-1 (Attachment 8).

SB 1215 – litigation; financing; consumer protection; enforcement – (continued)

Jason Theodorou, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Research Analyst, explained SB 1215 and the 7-page Leach amendment to SB 1215 dated 02/18/2025 at 2:24 p.m. (Attachment F).

Senator Leach, bill sponsor, further explained SB 1215.

Courtney Coolidge, Arizona Chamber of Commerce, testified in support of SB 1215 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Leach distributed a handout entitled "Litigation Transparency Act; Senate Bill 1215" (Attachment G).

Barry M. Aarons, Arizona Trial Lawyers Association, testified in support of SB 1215 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Leach offered comments.

Mr. Aarons offered comments.

Laura Curtis, American Property Casualty Insurance Association, testified in support of SB 1215 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Alex Chucri, Pravati Capitol, testified in opposition to SB 1215 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Chairman Bolick announced that SB 1215 would be voted on upon Senator Carroll's return.

SB 1514 – employer-employee arbitration; contract; disputes – (continued)

Jenn Ramirez-Mendoza, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Research Intern, explained SB 1514.

Tony Bradley, President, CEO, Arizona Trucking Association, testified in support of SB 1514.

Mark Cardenas, Teamsters Local Union 104, testified in opposition to SB 1514 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Bolick announced that the bill would be held until Senator Carroll returned.

SB 1658 – veterinary technicians; certification; education alternative – DO PASS AMENDED

Kati Pratt, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Assistant Research Analyst, explained SB 1658 and the 2-page Bolick amendment to SB 1658 dated 02/18/2025 at 2:05 p.m. (Attachment H).

Senator Bolick, bill sponsor, further explained SB 1658.

Dr. Steven Hansen, Arizona Humane Society, testified in support of SB 1658 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Susie Stevens, Arizona Veterinary Medical Association, testified in opposition to SB 1658.

Senator Bolick offered comments.

Ms. Stevens answered questions posed by the Committee.

Jennifer Serling, President, Arizona Veterinary Technician Association, testified in opposition to SB 1658.

Senator Leach offered comments.

Katie Foust, Certified Veterinarian Technicians of Arizona, testified in opposition to SB 1658.

Benita Altier, representing self, testified in opposition to SB 1658.

Stefanie Parry, representing self, testified in opposition to SB 1658.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1658 with a DO PASS recommendation.

Senator Carroll moved the 2-page Bolick amendment to SB 1658 dated 02/18/2025 at 2:05 p.m. (Attachment H) be ADOPTED. The motion CARRIED by voice vote.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1658 AS AMENDED receive a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 4-2-1 (Attachment 9).

Senators Epstein, Leach, Payne and Carroll explained their votes.

SB 1215 – litigation; financing; consumer protection; enforcement – DO PASS AMENDED (continued)

Senator Carroll moved SB 1215 with a DO PASS recommendation.

Senator Carroll moved the 7-page Leach amendment to SB 1215 dated 02/18/2025 at 2:24 p.m. (Attachment F) be ADOPTED. The motion CARRIED by voice vote.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1215 AS AMENDED receive a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 4-2-1 (Attachment 10).

Senators Epstein, Leach, Payne, Carroll and Bolick explained their votes.

SB 1514 – employer-employee arbitration; contract; disputes – DO PASS (continued)

Senator Carroll moved that SB 1514 be returned with a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 4-2-1 (Attachment 11).

SB 1228 – residential developments; new regulations; moratorium – DO PASS

Jason Theodorou, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Research Analyst, explained SB 1228.

Senator Bolick, bill sponsor, further explained SB 1228.

Jake Hinman, Arizona Neighborhood Project, testified in support of SB 1228 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Nick Ponder, League of Arizona Cities & Towns, testified in opposition to SB 1228 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Mr. Hinman answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Carroll offered comments.

Mr. Hinman offered comments.

Senator Carroll offered additional comments.

Senator Carroll moved that SB 1228 be returned with a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 4-3-0 (Attachment 12).

Senators Leach, Ortiz, Carroll and Bolick explained their votes.

SB 1307 – advanced air mobility infrastructure – DO PASS

Jenn Ramirez-Mendoza, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Research Intern, explained SB 1307.

Senator Carroll, bill sponsor, further explained SB 1307.

Mark Gaspers, Director of Government Operations, The Boeing Company, testified in support of SB 1307 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Carroll offered comments.

Dana Paschke, American Airlines, testified in opposition to SB 1307 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Leach offered comments.

Ms. Paschke offered comments.

Senator Carroll offered additional comments.

Ms. Paschke offered additional comments.

Senator Carroll offered additional comments.

Senator Carroll moved that SB 1307 be returned with a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 6-1-0 (Attachment 13).

Senator Epstein explained her vote.

SB 1721 – technical correction; obstructing governmental operations – DO PASS AMENDED/STRIKE EVERYTHING

Kati Pratt, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Assistant Research Analyst, explained the 3-page Bolick strike everything amendment to SB 1721 dated 02/17/2025 at 9:24 a.m. (Attachment I).

Senator Bolick, bill sponsor, further explained the strike everything amendment.

Patrick Bray, Arizona Farm and Ranch Group, testified in support of the strike everything amendment and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Carroll offered comments.

Samuel Richard, Humane World for Animals, testified in opposition to the strike everything amendment.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1721 with a DO PASS recommendation.

Senator Carroll moved the 3-page Bolick strike everything amendment to SB 1721 dated 02/17/2025 at 9:24 a.m. (Attachment I) be ADOPTED. The motion CARRIED by voice vote.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1721 AS AMENDED receive a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 5-2-0 (Attachment 14).

Senators Epstein, Ortiz and Payne explained their votes.

SB 1582 – earned wage access; providers; license – DO PASS AMENDED

Jason Theodorou, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Research Analyst, explained SB 1582, the 17-page Leach amendment to SB 1582 dated 02/18/2025 at 3:07 p.m. (Attachment J) and the 16-page Epstein amendment to SB 1582 dated 02/18/2025 at 2:39 p.m. (Attachment K).

Senator Mesnard, bill sponsor, further explained SB 1582 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Fernandez offered comments.

Senator Mesnard offered comments.

Senator Epstein offered comments and distributed a spreadsheet entitled "With a $2 fee, up to 18 transactions will not be predatory EWA can be limited to be affordable" (Attachment L).

The Committee offered comments and answered questions posed by the bill sponsor.

Senator Mesnard offered additional comments.

The Committee offered additional comments.

Don Isaacson, Isaacson Law firm, Imagine Learning, testified in support of SB 1582 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Ben LaRocco, Earnin, testified in support of SB 1582 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1582 with a DO PASS recommendation.

Senator Carroll moved the 16-page Epstein amendment to SB 1582 dated 02/18/2025 at 2:39 p.m. (Attachment K) be ADOPTED.

The Committee offered comments.

Drew Schaffer, William E. Morris Institute for Justice, testified in opposition to SB 1582.

The motion FAILED by voice vote.

Senator Carroll moved the 17-page Leach amendment to SB 1582 dated 02/18/2025 at 3:07 p.m. (Attachment J) be ADOPTED. The motion CARRIED by voice vote.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1582 AS AMENDED receive a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 4-3-0 (Attachment 15).

Senator Epstein explained her vote.

SB 1527 – occupational boards; renewal extension – DO PASS

Kati Pratt, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Assistant Research Analyst, explained SB 1527.

Senator Bolick, bill sponsor, further explained SB 1527.

Senator Carroll moved that SB 1527 be returned with a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 6-0-1 (Attachment 16).

RECESS

At 12:32 p.m., Chairman Bolick recessed the meeting to the sound of the gavel.

RECONVENE

On February 20, 2025, at 1:20 p.m., the Chairman reconvened the meeting.

SB 1237 – agency accounts; technical correction – DO PASS AMENDED/STRIKE EVERYTHING

Jason Theodorou, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Research Analyst, explained the 6-line Bolick strike everything amendment to SB 1237 dated 02/11/2025 at 3:07 p.m. (Attachment M).

Senator Petersen, bill sponsor, further explained the strike everything amendment.

Brian Sikma, Foundation of Government Accountability Action, testified in support of the strike everything amendment and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Leach offered comments.

Senator Leach moved SB 1237 with a DO PASS recommendation.

Senator Leach moved the 6-line Bolick strike everything amendment to SB 1237 dated 02/11/2025 at 3:07 p.m. (Attachment M) be ADOPTED. The motion CARRIED by voice vote.

Senator Leach moved SB 1237 AS AMENDED receive a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 4-2-1 (Attachment 17).

Senators Epstein, Leach and Carroll explained their votes.

SB 1529 – municipal housing; preapproved design – DO PASS

Jason Theodorou, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Research Analyst, explained SB 1529.

Senator Bolick offered comments.

Steve Kaiser, Arizona Prosperity Project, testified in support of SB 1529 an answered questions posed by the Committee.

Christian Solorio, representing self, testified in support of SB 1529 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Nick Ponder, League of Arizona Cities & Towns, testified in support of SB 1529.

Mr. Kaiser answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Mr. Ponder answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Leach offered comments.

Mr. Ponder offered comments.

Senator Carroll moved that SB 1529 be returned with a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 7-0-0 (Attachment 18).

Senators Epstein, Leach and Ortiz explained their votes.

SB 1395 – international medical graduates; requirements – DO PASS AMENDED/STRIKE EVERYTHING

Katie Pratt, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Assistant Research Analyst, explained the 24-line Carroll strike everything amendment to SB 1395 dated 02/14/2025 at 9:44 a.m. (Attachment N).

Amanda Sheinson, Arizona Medical Association, testified in support of the strike everything amendment.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1395 with a DO PASS recommendation.

Senator Carroll moved the 24-line Carroll strike everything amendment to SB 1395 dated 02/14/2025 at 9:44 a.m. (Attachment N) be ADOPTED. The motion CARRIED by voice vote.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1395 AS AMENDED receive a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 6-0-1 (Attachment 19).

SB 1612 – document retention; proposals; donations – DO PASS

Jason Theodorou, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Research Analyst, explained SB 1612.

Senator Shope, bill sponsor, further explained SB 1612 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Carroll moved that SB 1612 be returned with a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 7-0-0 (Attachment 20).

SB 1507 – independent corrections ombudsman; auditor general – DO PASS AMENDED

Jason Theodorou, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Research Analyst, explained SB 1507, the 9-page Bolick amendment to SB 1507 dated 02/18/2025 at 3:32 p.m. (Attachment O) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Bolick, bill sponsor, further explained SB 1507.

The Committee offered comments.

Shaun Rieve, Justice Action Network, testified in support of SB 1507.

Brianna Farmer, Arizona Department of Corrections Rehabilitation & Reentry, testified as neutral on SB 1507 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Bolick answered questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Farmer answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1507 with a DO PASS recommendation.

Senator Carroll moved the 9-page Bolick amendment to SB 1507 dated 02/18/2025 at 3:32 p.m. (Attachment O) be ADOPTED. The motion CARRIED by voice vote.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1507 AS AMENDED receive a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 7-0-0 (Attachment 21).

Senators Epstein and Bolick explained their votes.

SB 1627 – agencies; interpretations; directives; rules – DO PASS AMENDED

Jenn Ramirez-Mendoza, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Research Intern, explained SB 1627 and the 22-line Bolick amendment to SB 1627 dated 02/11/2025 at 12:07 p.m. (Attachment P).

Senator Bolick, bill sponsor, further explained SB 1627 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Ramirez-Mendoza answered questions posed by the Committee.

Mr. Theodorou answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Leach offered comments.

David Morris, Americans for Prosperity Arizona, testified in support of SB 1627 and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Bolick answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1627 with a DO PASS recommendation.

Senator Carroll moved the 22-line Bolick amendment to SB 1627 dated 02/11/2025 at 12:07 p.m. (Attachment P) be ADOPTED. The motion CARRIED by voice vote.

Senator Carroll moved SB 1627 AS AMENDED receive a DO PASS recommendation. The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 7-0-0 (Attachment 22).

Attached is a list noting the individuals who registered their positions on the legislation (Attachment Q).

Attached are forms noting the individuals who submitted a Speaker slip on the legislation (Attachment R).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Zoey Paredes
Committee Secretary

(Audio recordings and attachments are on file in the Secretary of the Senate's Office/Resource Center, Room 115. Audio archives are available at http://www.azleg.gov)