

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Fifty-seventh Legislature - First Regular Session

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

Report of Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 18, 2025

House Hearing Room 5 -- 2:00 P.M. OR UPON RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT OF FLOOR

Convened 3:26 P.M.

Recessed

Reconvened

Adjourned 4:52 P.M.

RECEIVED
CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

MAR 19 2025

Members Present

Representative Aguilar
Representative Blackman
Representative Cavero
Representative Connolly
Representative Diaz
Representative Hendrix
Representative Villegas
Representative Wilmeth
Representative Way, Vice-Chairman
Representative Weninger, Chairman

Members Absent

Agenda

Original Agenda – Attachment 1

Request to Speak

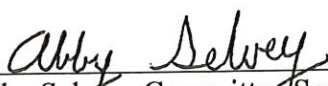
Report – Attachment 2

Committee Attendance

Report – Attachment 3

Committee Action

<u>Bill</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Attachments</u>
SB1062	DP	6-4-0-0	4,5
SB1373	DP	6-4-0-0	6,7
SB1025	DP	6-4-0-0	8,9
SB1296	DPA	6-4-0-0	10,11,12
SB1540	DPA/SE	10-0-0-0	13,14,15
SB1467	DP	10-0-0-0	16,17
SB1551	DPA	9-1-0-0	18,19,20


Abby Selvey, Committee Secretary
March 19, 2025

(Original attachments on file in the Office of the Chief Clerk; video archives available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE
March 18, 2025

REVISED - 3/14/25

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Convene: 3:26 pm
Adj'n: 4:52 pm
REVISED - 3/14/25

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Fifty-seventh Legislature - First Regular Session

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

DATE Tuesday, March 18, 2025

ROOM HHR 5

TIME 2:00 P.M. or upon recess or
adjournment of Floor

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting here:

<https://www.azleg.gov/videooplayer/?clientID=6361162879&eventID=2025031075>

Members:

Representative Aguilar
Representative Blackman
Representative Cavero
Representative Connolly

Representative Diaz
Representative Hendrix
Representative Villegas

Representative Wilmeth
Representative Way, Vice-Chairman
Representative Weninger, Chairman

Bills	Short Title	Strike Everything Title
<u>SB1025</u>	<u>DP</u> public monies; investment; virtual currency (Rogers: Weninger) COM, RULES <u>6-4-0-0</u>	
<u>SB1062</u>	<u>DP</u> legal tender; cryptocurrency (Finchem: Farnsworth, Rogers, et al) COM, RULES <u>6-4-0-0</u>	
<u>SB1296</u>	<u>DPA</u> unemployment benefits; requirements; disqualifications; determinations (Finchem: Biasiucci) COM, RULES <u>6-4-0-0</u>	
<u>SB1373</u>	<u>DP</u> digital assets strategic reserve fund (Finchem) COM, RULES <u>6-4-0-0</u>	
<u>SB1467</u>	<u>DP</u> liquor; consumption; watercraft (Shope) COM, RULES <u>10-0-0-0</u>	

Bills

Short Title

Strike Everything Title

SB1540

DPA S/E

personal property exemptions; vehicles
(Carroll)

S/E: homestead; personal property;
exemptions

10-0-0-0

COM, RULES

SB1542

~~personal property exemption; money proceeds~~

~~(Carroll)~~

~~COM, RULES~~

SB1543

~~homestead exemption; equity increase~~

~~(Carroll)~~

~~COM, RULES~~

SB1551

DPA

workers' compensation; disability; definitions
(Leach)

9-1-0-0

COM, RULES

ORDER OF BILLS TO BE SET BY THE CHAIRMAN

RA
03/12/2025
03/14/2025

People with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations such as interpreters, alternative formats, or assistance with physical accessibility. If you require accommodations, please contact the Chief Clerk's Office at (602) 926-3032 or through Arizona Relay Service 7-1-1.

Information Registered on the Request to Speak System

House Commerce (3/18/2025)

SB1025, public monies; investment; virtual currency

Oppose:

Katherine Warren, representing self; Carolyn Watson, representing self; kathleen mayer, representing self; Dave Long, representing self; Janie Hydrick, representing self; Laurence Wittig, representing self; Steve Ramos, representing self; Judith Simons, representing self; Mary Pradelt, representing self; Steven Linder, representing self; Judith Robbins, representing self; Dawn Tripp, representing self; Frank Machek, representing self; Maria Salvucci, representing self; Kevin Brown, representing self; Beverly Janowitz-Price, representing self; Theodora Schiro, representing self; Jeanne Casteen, representing self; Susan Doherty, representing self; Beatriz Urrea, representing self; Alisa McMahon, representing self; Lisa Olson, representing self; Michael Fiflis, representing self; DOUG ARNOLD, representing self; Vivian Perry, representing self; Christina Mollica, representing self; Dianne Post, AZ NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN (NOW), Self; Cynthia Couture, representing self; Carol Maas, representing self; Sherrilynn James, representing self; Donita Ramos, representing self; Adena Bank, representing self; Mary Grove, representing self; Barbara Fraboni, representing self; Darrell Boomgaarden, representing self; Katherine Doman Sheydayi, representing self; Nancy C. Faria, representing self; Charlie Silver, representing self; Barbara Oliver, representing self; Cynthia Hans, representing self; Marylynne Shroyer, representing self; Becky Saylor, representing self; Susan Morris, representing self; Doris Freeman, representing self; Robin LaVoie, representing self; Julie Golding, representing self; Christine Keitges, representing self; Andrea Stefanov, representing self; Lawrence Peters, representing self; Barb Larson, representing self; Linda Reichert, representing self; Linda Edwards, representing self; Kathy Fraser, representing self; Angela Shopmeyer, representing self; Jeri Dow, representing self; Paula Redinger, representing self; Katherine Lathrop, representing self; Janet Senf, representing self; Peggy Yeargain-Williams, representing self; Kathy Pyner, representing self; William Tripp, representing self; Marilyn Coyle, representing self; Donna Walkuski, representing self; Joan Murphy, representing self; Penny Boone, representing self; Ralph Meredith, representing self; Gayle Meredith, representing self; Anne Leota Hart, representing self; Diane Lings, representing self; Nancy Wood, representing self; GARY LEW OLIVER, representing self; Valerie Policastro Edie, representing self; Margaret Adams, representing self; Marilyn Childs, representing self; Mariette Francis, representing self; Ruth Shea, representing self; Martha O'Connor, representing self; Kathleen Dubbs, representing self; Rebecca Scotney, representing self; Mary-Jeanne Fincher, representing self; Matthew Nelson, representing self; Luis Oquendo, representing self; Glenn Sollers, representing self; Dorothy Taylor, representing self; Roxanna Kearns, representing self; William S. James, representing self; Stephen Coyle, representing self; Eileen Goldman, representing self; Michael Pyska, representing self; Rebecca Haynes, representing self; Mary Nelson, representing self; Barbara Jacobsen, representing self; Susan Phelps, representing self; Sarah Harris, representing self; Dee Leuzinger, representing self; Kathryn Anderson, representing self; Charlotte Lis, representing self; Carol Fiore, representing self; Jeannette Scoufos, representing self; Larry Scoufos, representing self; William Yohey, representing self; Michael Weingarten, representing self; Joan Thomas, representing self; Meredith Brown, representing self; Jennifer Dawson, representing self; Dieter Knecht, representing self; Allison Jackson, representing self; Linda Cooke, representing self; Libby Stortz, representing self; Bart Briefstein, representing self; Marin Lersch, representing self; Jillian Ryan, representing self; Barbara McGill, representing self; Patty Goldsmith, representing self; James Stein, representing self; Nancee K Wood, representing

self; Devon Sloan, representing self; Pat Jayson, representing self; Aaron Torrance, representing self; Suzanne Zimmerman, representing self; Joseph Murray, representing self; Kathleen Bashor, representing self; Nelson Morgan, representing self; Daniel Mardock, representing self; Karen Dubin, representing self; Stephen Flaaen, representing self; Jacqueline deSa, representing self; Eric Kadel, representing self; Carol Garnett, representing self; Sarah Bihms LD29, representing self; Maria Hidalgo, representing self; Joseph Alexander, representing self; Kathleen Sauer, representing self; Angela Buer, representing self; Maninko - Albina Archer, representing self; Margie Gomez, representing self; Marilyn Murov, representing self; Jeanne Hardie, representing self; Ted Dubin, representing self; Frederick James, representing self; Shana Tevlin, representing self; Barbara Larson, representing self; Melinda Bell, representing self; Christine Sujak, representing self; Rivko Knox, representing self; Cindy Bieger, representing self; lore dickey, representing self; Angela Hansen, representing self; Shelly Hartman, representing self; Cherie Schierl, representing self; Pamela Chittenden, representing self; Kent Rossman, representing self; Sharon Arnst, representing self; Cheryl Benefield, representing self; Sharon Ehrlich, representing self; Cheryl Stafford, representing self; Theresa Ryan, representing self; Willard Watts, representing self; Scott Moore, representing self; Aspen Sobon, representing self; George Ehrlich, representing self; Lynn Chinnis, representing self; Patricia Edelen, representing self; Garyh Rulapaugh, representing self; John Stolte, representing self; Jerrold Borchardt, representing self; Aaron Essif, representing self; Margaret Tinsley, representing self; Phillip Carman, representing self; Karolyn Switzer, representing self; Jeanmarie Haney, representing self; Deborah Gaines, representing self; Janie Smieszek, representing self; Jan Allen, representing self; ALICE BUCK, representing self; Claudia Oreck-Teplitsky, representing self; Judy Zimmet, representing self; Dan Roskey, representing self; Michelle Carter, representing self; Amy Gosla, representing self; Lois Ermak, representing self; Nadine Smith, representing self; Amy Pedotto, representing self; Cynthia Wagner, representing self; Kathleen Schanus-Gohl, representing self; Lori Taniguchi, representing self; Tiffany Wisdom, representing self; Jay Henson, representing self; Diane Klock, representing self; Gina Gral, representing self; Joanne Basta, representing self; Lisa Yencarelli, representing self; Donna Sullivan, representing self; Jane Johnson, representing self; Amy Licht, representing self; John Cummings, representing self; Carol Campbell, representing self; Donna Rugg, representing self; Kathleen Woessner, representing self; Alice Patricia Price, representing self; marcia stewart, representing self; RITA DEPUYDT, representing self; Zachary Rome, representing self; Lisa Kopp, representing self; LINDA GANTVERG, representing self; JoAnn McCay, representing self; Monica Bills, representing self; Sandra Adler, representing self; David Myers, representing self; Veronica Branscomb, representing self; Thomas Scotney, representing self; William Bowlus-Root, representing self; Gail Graves, representing self; Diane McQueen, representing self; Sally Evans, representing self; Salie Travis, representing self; Loretta O'Connor, representing self; Deborah Green, representing self; Sherri Johnson, representing self; Kay Ransdell, representing self; Dellanie Fragnoli, representing self; Holli Grimaudo, representing self; Barbara Rodman, representing self; Valarie Bryant, representing self; Denise Hudson, representing self; Nancy Musgrave, representing self; James Lewison, representing self; Lisa Koenig, representing self; Ilene Riffle, representing self; Elissa Karn, representing self; Terri Farneti, representing self; Suzanne Lewis, representing self; Joseph Johnson, representing self; Jane Jackson, representing self; Jill Anderson, representing self; Cheryl Cox, representing self; Catherine Bliven, representing self; Julia Allison, representing self; Sharon Regen, representing self; Christopher Cerrato, representing self; Sue Diaz, representing self; VICKI DELIA, representing self; Chris Ahearn, representing self; Jalice Wiest, representing self; Leonora Midgley, representing self; Kathryn Dorn, representing self; L. Anne Brothers, representing self; Terri Shafer, representing self; Susan Ordway, representing self; Roger Blain, representing self; Deborah Anderson, representing self; Katherine Stitzer, representing self; Karen Brown, representing self; Doug Schneider, RLS, representing self; Marcia Tingley, representing self; Dianna DiMaggio, representing self

All Comments:

Katherine Warren, Self: Is this bill to help fund World Liberty Financial, the new crypto platform in which Donald Trump holds a financial stake? This bill would gamble with our tax dollars and Arizonans' lifetime savings.; Carolyn Watson, Self: Crypto, as an unregulated currency, doesn't belong in the state pension funds.; kathleen mayer, Self: cryptocurrency is notoriously unreliable and poses too much risk for public money.; Janie Hydrick, Self: Don't take millionaires' gambles with hard-earned money. Cryptocurrency is volatile, risky, not backed by regulatory mechanism, and has changed constantly and dramatically over the past ten years.; Mary Pradelt, Self: Do not gamble with retirement funds for public employees; Judith Robbins, Self: Reject the use of the ASRS retirement funds to invest in a highly speculative, volatile and unregulated crypto currency. The risk is too high and should not be part of the portfolio. Vote absolutely NOT; Dawn Tripp, Self: No way!; Theodora Schiro, Self: Crypto is speculative, has no intrinsic value, and is not backed by any regulatory mechanism. IT IS A BAD IDEA TO INVEST STATE RETIREMENT BENEFITS IN A RISKY CURRENCY!; Beatriz Urrea, Self: The volatility and risk of cryptocurrency makes this a terrible retirement investment. Crypto is speculative, has no intrinsic value, and is not backed by any regulatory mechanism.; Alisa McMahon, Self: Such fiscal irresponsibility would be legislative malpractice.; Lisa Olson, Self: Cryptocurrency is volatile and makes it a terrible retirement investment because it is speculative, has no intrinsic value, and is not backed by any regulatory mechanism. This is a dangerous practice, playing with retirement savings. I OPPOSE; Michael Fiflis, Self: Accepting crypto is dangerous; crypto is very volatile in price and thus risky. Prudent and conservative investment of taxpayer funds should steer clear of crypto.; Cynthia Couture, Self: Keep tax dollars out of this Ponzi scheme gamble.; Carol Maas, Self: Stop gambling with tax payer money by working with crypto. You want to see AZ go bankrupt? Maybe that is your plan but sure not mine. Get real!!; Adena Bank, Self: The volatility and risk of cryptocurrency makes it a terrible retirement investment. Crypto is speculative, has no intrinsic value, and is not backed by any regulatory mechanism. Its value changes constantly and dramatically; over the past 10 years,; Nancy C. Faria, Self: This is a really bad idea and cause loss of public funds in a heartbeat. These funds are unregulated and unsecured.; Charlie Silver, Self: Bad idea.; Lawrence Peters, Self: Crypto is speculative, has no intrinsic value, is not backed by a regulatory mechanism, is as volatile as the stock market, has high energy consumption for mining activities, & is used in criminal activities. Gambles tax dollars & Arizonans' savings.; Linda Edwards, Self: No risky currency PLEASE; Paula Redinger, Self: No to virtual currency. Period.; Katherine Lathrop, Self: Crypto is speculative and not backed by any regulatory mechanism. And doesn't the sponsor receive a lot of campaign contributions from crypto currencies? Hmm doesn't pass the sniff test.; William Tripp, Self: Absolutely against.; Penny Boone, Self: NO! Cryptocurrency is a scam.; Anne Leota Hart, Self: I am on state retirement. I don't want my money gambled away in cryptocurrency. It's a scam.; Martha O'Connor, Self: The state should not be using taxpayer dollars to speculate in virtual currency. That is not wise fiscal management.; Mary-Jeanne Fincher, Self: Crypto is highly speculative and is not appropriate for public funds. Don't gamble with our money!; Matthew Nelson, Self: Very dangerous to use vote against it; Roxanna Kearns, Self: I definitely do not want any of my retirement earned benefits to be invested in crypto currency. Do not allow the state treasurer and state retirement systems to invest up to 10% of their public monies in "virtual currency." SB1025 is dangerous!!!; William S. James, Self: Don't gamble with my tax dollars; Eileen Goldman, Self: don't use my tax dollars on a ponzi scheme; Rebecca Haynes, Self: Crypto is speculative, has no intrinsic value, and is not backed by any regulatory mechanism. Risk your own retirement, not ours.; Mary Nelson, Self: Crypto is a scam; Sarah Harris, Self: No. The volatility and risk of cryptocurrency makes it a terrible retirement investment. Crypto is speculative, has no intrinsic value, and is not backed by any regulatory mechanism.; Charlotte Lis, Self: Virtual currencies do not have enough oversight to risk retirement funds.; Michael Weingarten, Self: Terrible idea. I do not want our public monies gambled away on something with no intrinsic value.; Joan Thomas, Self: Don't gamble with Arizonan's lifetime savings and our tax dollars! Cryptocurrency is a terrible retirement investment.; Meredith Brown, Self: This is a TERRIBLE idea. Cryptocurrency is unstable and should never be involved in retirement plans. It's only for the very rich who have money to play with.; Jennifer Dawson, Self: NO CRYPTOCURRENCY!! It's good

only for the uber-rich, gamblers, and laundering dark money. Incredibly dangerous for state finances and retirement programs.; Marin Lersch, Self: Cryptocurrency is unregulated and volatile. We should not gamble with our tax dollars and people's retirements this way.; Jillian Ryan, Self: This bill would gamble with our tax dollars and Arizonans' lifetime savings.; Barbara McGill, Self: Betting on cryptocurrency is an unsafe way for our state to speculate.; Pat Jayson, Self: Cryptocurrency is too fraught with uncertainty to be considered for public money investments! Think Sam Bankman-Fried, you dummy.; Aaron Torrance, Self: The volatility and risk of cryptocurrency makes it a terrible retirement investment. Crypto is speculative, has no intrinsic value, and is not backed by any regulatory mechanism. Its value changes constantly and dramatically.; Joseph Murray, Self: The volatility and risk of cryptocurrency makes it a terrible retirement investment. Crypto is speculative, has no intrinsic value, and is not backed by any regulatory mechanism.; Nelson Morgan, Self: The best thing you can say about crypto is that it is a highly speculative and volatile investment. Beyond that it primarily enables criminal enterprises. Very, very bad idea.; Stephen Flaaen, Self: Crypto currencies are one of, if not the most, volatile financial investments and not suited for the responsible investment of public funds. This bill will harm the financial standing of the state of Arizona.; Jacqueline deSa, Self: The volatility & risk of cryptocurrency makes it a terrible retirement investment. Even the most aggressive investment advisors recommend that investors make it less than 10% of their portfolio. This bill would gamble w/ Arizonans' lifetime savings.; Carol Garnett, Self: Don't invest my tax dollars or retiree dollars in speculation/gambling.; Sarah Bihms LD29, Self: Allowing state funds to be invested in cryptocurrencies is a high-risk gamble with taxpayer money, with no long-term value or regulation to back it up. This threatens our public retirement funds and financial stability.; Maria Hidalgo, Self: STOP! gambling on Crypto, a speculative scam, with no intrinsic value which is not backed by any regulatory mechanism. Its value changes constantly & dramatically. In the past 10 yrs, it has been 5 to 10 times as volatile as the US stock market.; Joseph Alexander, Self: This bill would open the door for the State to invest in a very risky fad.; Kathleen Sauer, Self: If the bill had allowed investments in beanie babies, maybe . . .; Angela Buer, Self: Cryptocurrency is volatile and makes it a terrible retirement investment because it is speculative, has no intrinsic value, and is not backed by any regulatory mechanism. This is a dangerous practice, playing with retirement savings. I OPPOSE; Maninko - Albina Archer, Self: Cryptocurrency is volatile and makes it a terrible retirement investment because it is speculative, has no intrinsic value, and is not backed by any regulatory mechanism. This is a dangerous practice, playing with retirement savings. I OPPOSE; Margie Gomez, Self: Cryptocurrency is unstable and the platforms are not secure. It is possible that the money is not really there. This is a dangerous and an insecure method to use for people's retirement.; Marilyn Murov, Self: This bill would gamble with our tax dollars and Arizonans' lifetime savings. One might as well take 10% of their portfolio to Vegas . Fiscally irresponsible.; Ted Dubin, Self: please God...NO; Rivko Knox, Self: Please!! No gambling with (extreme volatility) with public or retirement funds!!!; lore dickey, Self: This bill would gamble with tax payer moneys. Cryptocurrency is highly volatile and is a bad investment tool.; Angela Hansen, Self: Please do not put our state investments in jeopardy by allowing investment in bitcoin. My child lost 100% of their investment in bitcoin. Don't do that with public monies.; Shelly Hartman, Self: Crypto is speculative, has no intrinsic value, and is not backed by any regulatory mechanism. Its value changes constantly and dramatically; over the past 10 years, it has been 5 to 10 times as volatile as the US stock market, which adds a huge risk; Pamela Chittenden, Self: Too dangerous. Perhaps Sen Rogers should invest all her assets in crypto as an experiment and see how well it works long term, not public assets.; Kent Rossman, Self: too speculative and just like the pyramid schemes of the past. Don't put my taxpayer dollars in that stuff; Sharon Arnst, Self: Cryptocurrency; government should not be involved in this risky endeavor—feel free to invest your own personal money.; Sharon Ehrlich, Self: Foolish, risky and no way to treat public funds; Cheryl Stafford, Self: I am a retired state employee. The volatility and risk of cryptocurrency makes it a terrible retirement investment. Crypto is speculative, has no intrinsic value, and is not backed by any regulatory mechanism. This is a dangerous and risky idea.; Theresa Ryan, Self: I don't want my tax dollars invested in crypto, it is too speculative.; Aspen Sobon, Self: My spouse recieve ASRS retirement income. Gambling with virtual money that has no real value and extreme

volatility is a terrible idea and a danger to our retirement and treasury system!; Patricia Edelen, Self: Cryptocurrency is uncertain and a great risk - don't gamble with my tax money.; Aaron Essif, Self: Too darn Volatile!!; Margaret Tinsley, Self: What an incredibly horrible idea. This comes from someone who calls herself a conservative? There is nothing conservative about this. It is rank speculation and will not benefit Arizona voters. Please vote no.; Philip Carman, Self: Speculating in virtual currency is NOT wise financial management!; Karolyn Switzer, Self: Cryptocurrency is far too volatile and risky to be even a small part of retirement plans.; Jeanmarie Haney, Self: High risk and volatility makes crypto a terrible retirement investment; speculative, no intrinsic value, not backed by any regulatory mechanism. 5-10 times as volatile as the US stock market, huge risk to a portfolio even with a small amount invested; Janie Smieszek, Self: Would be gambling with the state's money - not a good idea; Lois Ermak, Self: Strong no! Those public monies are our monies. Crypto is based on nothing more than how popular the current crypto of the day is. Google "what is cryptocurrency".; Cynthia Wagner, Self: The volatility and risk of cryptocurrency makes it a terrible retirement investment. Crypto is speculative, has no intrinsic value, and is not backed by any regulatory mechanism; Diane Klock, Self: This is a really bad idea from Wendy Rogers. This bill would gamble with our tax dollars and Arizonans' life savings. I am strongly opposed.; Joanne Basta, Self: Don't gamble with our tax dollars and Arizonans' life savings; Jane Johnson, Self: I oppose this because virtual currency is speculative, has no real value and no regulation protecting the investor. Its volatility makes it a terrible retirement investment.; John Cummings, Self: Crypto is too risky for retirement investments.; Carol Campbell, Self: The volatility and risk of cryptocurrency makes it a terrible retirement investment.; Alice Patricia Price, Self: Virtual currency is too volatile; Marcia Stewart, Self: Playing with retirement funds of others is no joking matter. Financial professionals still believe crypto is too risky, volatile. This is gambling.; RITA DEPUYDT, Self: This is way too risky.; LINDA GANTVERG, Self: I absolutely oppose this measure; crypto is a huge gamble and should not be used to invest taxpayer money; Deborah Green, Self: As a retired teacher I do not want the state retirement fund put at risk by investing in risky cryptocurrency.; Holli Grimaudo, Self: Crypto is risky and has no regulations. ASRS FY2023 funds report shows an 8.2% earnings, well above the 7% estimate. It would be a huge gamble with mine and countless others' pension which we earned as AZ public servants. No, no, no! ZIP Code 85029; Nancy Musgrave, Self: Virtual currency is volatile. Do not pass this bill!; James Lewison, Self: Crypto is too risky for public investments; Ilene Riffle, Self: CRYPTOCURRENCY IS NOT STABLE NOR OFFICIAL WAY TO SAVE MONEY. THIS COULD BE A WASTE OF STATE MONEY. IF YOU WANT A BACKLOG OF MONEY FOR EMERGENCIES, THEN SEND A BILL THAT THIS SHOULD BE DONE IN USD!; Elissa Karn, Self: I receive a pension from ASRS, and I do not approve of a risky investment in crypto currency with public monies.; Suzanne Lewis, Self: As an ASRS member, I am absolutely opposed to my state retirement being used to gamble on cryptocurrency.; Jane Jackson, Self: Not even 1% of my ASRS should be invested in cryptocurrency!; Jill Anderson, Self: virtual currency is way too risky; Cheryl Cox, Self: Gambling our tax dollars on cryptocurrency? No thank you; Julia Allison, Self: Crypto has no intrinsic value, and it is not backed by any regulatory mechanism. It has been 5 to 10 times as volatile as the US stock market, which adds a huge risk. This bill would gamble with our tax dollars and Arizonans' lifetime savings.; Sharon Regen, Self: would allow the state treasurer and state retirement systems to invest up to 10% of their public monies in "virtual currency." The volatility and risk of cryptocurrency makes it a terrible retirement investment. Crypto is speculative, has no intrinsic value; Sue Diaz, Self: Crypto is speculative and the state's retirement system should not be at risk with such an investment.; Chris Ahearn, Self: Please oppose. Allowing state retirement systems and the state treasurer to invest in virtual currencies is dangerous, risks our hard-earned money, and is just plain nuts. Thank you.; Jalice Wiest, Self: Our state retirement systems are very well managed with the stability needed to ensure growth while providing a secure retirement for state employees. Crypto currency is not stable enough to include in these portfolios.; Kathryn Dorn, Self: Please don't force public employees to take on the financial risk of cryptocurrency by allowing the state to unilaterally invest ANY portion of their (actual) retirement fund in "virtual currency," let alone as much as ten percent!; Terri Shafer, Self: Cryptocurrency is a volatile and high-risk investment that has no place in portfolios that are designed to ensure retirement income.; Susan Ordway, Self: Extremely risky.; Roger Blain, Self:

Just no.; Karen Brown, Self: Crypto is full of bad actors. It has been shown recently to be a bad investment with unacceptable levels of risk. We can't afford to jeopardize state funds with this fraud-ridden scam.; Doug Schneider, RLS, Self: This is a terrible idea. Sort of like gambling with tax payers money.; Marcia Tingley, Self: Cryptocurrency is speculative, volatile and risky – a terrible choice for retirement investments. Its value changes constantly and rapidly. Bill would gamble with our tax dollars and AZ citizens' savings.; Dianna DiMaggio, Self: This has to be the worst idea ever. I cannot imagine anyone being for this bill.

SB1062, legal tender; cryptocurrency

Testified as opposed:

Megan Kintner, AZ ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

SB1296, unemployment benefits; requirements; disqualifications; determinations

Testified in support:

Tim Puglisi, representing self

Testified as opposed:

Mark Ashley, representing self; Blake Lister, Opportunity Arizona

Support:

Emily Raymond, EQUIFAX, INC.

Neutral:

Melanie Richards, AZ DEPT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Oppose:

Dianne Post, AZ NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN (NOW), Self; Carol Maas, representing self; Molly McGovern, UNITED FOOD & COMMERCIAL WORKERS UNION LOCAL 99; Doris Freeman, representing self; Kathy Pyner, representing self; Joan Murphy, representing self; Martha O'Connor, representing self; Francisco "Hugo" Polanco, Rural Arizona Action (RAZA); Rebecca Ellicott, representing self; Megan Holsapple, representing self; Roger Blain, representing self; marcia stewart, representing self; Sharon Ehrlich, representing self; George Ehrlich, representing self; Nancee K Wood, representing self

All Comments:

Emily Raymond, EQUIFAX, INC.: Equifax supports the House Commerce amendment for SB1296.; Carol Maas, Self: Making requirements/qualifications even more difficult is not what is needed to support people. They pay taxes so when they need the support, the state should be there to help!; Doris Freeman, Self: How pathetic is the sponsor of this bill, to wish more hardship on people who are being treated badly by their employers already. There are employers who will claim they fired for cause, just so a person cannot receive unemployment. DESPICABLE!; Martha O'Connor, Self: To require they go back under the same conditions at the employer's behest is slavery and prohibited under the 13th amendment.; marcia stewart, Self: UNEMPLOYMENT IS SOMETHING EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEES PAY INTO. THESE ARE DESERVED BENEFITS WITH JOBS ARE LOST

SB1373, digital assets strategic reserve fund

SB1467, liquor; consumption; watercraft

Testified in support:

Robert Mayer, representing self

All Comments:

Robert Mayer, Self: Speaking in favor of SB1467, whose genesis is the creation of a tour and event boat operation on Tempe Town Lake in collaboration with the City of Tempe, which this bill would make possible.

SB1540, personal property exemptions; vehicles

Testified in support:

Kenneth Neeley, representing self

Support:

Francisco "Hugo" Polanco, Rural Arizona Action (RAZA); Pele Fischer, ARIZONA CONSUMER BANKRUPTCY COUNSEL

All Comments:

Francisco "Hugo" Polanco, Rural Arizona Action (RAZA): Update

SB1551, workers' compensation; disability; definitions

Testified in support:

Emily Rice, AZ SELF-INSURERS ASSOC; Michael Monti, AZ ASSN OF LAWYERS FOR INJURED WORKERS

Support:

Barry M. Aarons, AZ ASSN OF LAWYERS FOR INJURED WORKERS; Mackenzie Shane, GREATER PHOENIX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; Mark Kendall, COPPERPOINT INSURANCE COMPANY

Neutral:

Charles Carpenter, INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF AZ

All Comments:

Barry M. Aarons, AZ ASSN OF LAWYERS FOR INJURED WORKERS: Modified

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE
 Fifty-seventh Legislature - First Regular Session
COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE RECORD

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

CHAIRMAN: Jeff Weninger VICE-CHAIRMAN: Michael Way

DATE	03/11/25	3/18/25	/25	/25	/25
CONVENED	3:20 pm	3:26 pm	m	m	m
RECESSED					
RECONVENED					
ADJOURNED	3:45 pm	4:52 pm			
MEMBERS					
Aguilar	✓	✓			
Blackman	✓	✓			
Cavero	✓	✓			
Connolly	✓	✓			
Diaz	✓	✓			
Hendrix	✓	✓			
Villegas	✓	✓			
Wilmeth	✓	✓			
Way, Vice-Chairman	✓	✓			
Weninger, Chairman	✓	✓			

√ Present --- Absent exc Excused



ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fifty-seventh Legislature

First Regular Session

Senate: FIN DP 4-3-0-0 | 3rd Read 17-11-2-0

SB 1062: legal tender; cryptocurrency

Sponsor: Senator Finchem, LD 1

Committee on Commerce

Overview

Prescribes *legal tender* as a uniform statutory term and includes *specie* and *cryptocurrency* as legal tender.

History

Various statutes currently provide a definition of legal tender and includes *specie* as a type of legal tender. *Legal tender*, as used in various statutes, is defined as a medium of exchange, including *specie*, that is authorized by the U.S. Constitution or Congress for the payment of debts, public charges, taxes and dues. *Specie* is defined as coins having precious metal content.

Provisions

1. Prescribes *legal tender* as a uniform statutory term consisting of:
 - a) any medium of exchange that is authorized by the U.S. Constitution or Congress for the payment of debts, public charges, taxes and dues;
 - b) *specie*, which are coins having precious metal content; and
 - c) *cryptocurrency*, which is any form of digital currency in which encryption techniques are used to regulate the generation of units of currency and verify the transfer of monies, including Bitcoin, XRP, Ethereum, Litecoin and bitcoin cash. (Sec. 1)
2. Makes conforming changes. (Sec. 2-8)

☐ Prop 105 (45 votes)

☐ Prop 108 (40 votes)

☐ Emergency (40 votes)

☐ Fiscal Note

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Fifty-seventh Legislature - First Regular Session

ROLL CALL VOTE

COMMITTEE ON Commerce BILL NO. SB 1062

DATE March 18, 2025 MOTION: DP

	PASS	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT
Aguilar			✓		
Blackman	✓	✓			
Cavero			✓		
Connolly			✓		
Diaz	✓	✓			
Hendrix		✓			
Villegas			✓		
Wilmeth		✓			
Way, Vice-Chairman		✓			
Weninger, Chairman		✓			
		6	4	0	0

APPROVED:

Jeff Weninger
JEFF WENINGER, Chairman
MICHAEL WAY, Vice-Chairman

Abby Selway
COMMITTEE SECRETARY

ATTACHMENT 5



ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fifty-seventh Legislature

First Regular Session

Senate: FIN DP 5-2-0-0 | 3rd Read 17-12-1-0

SB 1373: digital assets strategic reserve fund

Sponsor: Senator Finchem, LD 1

Committee on Commerce

Overview

Creates the Digital Assets Strategic Reserve Fund (Fund) and provides responsibilities of the State Treasurer in administering the Fund.

History

Statute authorizes and provides guidelines for the [State Treasurer](#) to manage investments of public monies including for the beneficiaries of the State Land Trust, Local Governments and Political Subdivisions of the State and for the State of Arizona and its respective agencies. The State Treasurer is responsible for the safekeeping of all securities for which the State Treasurer is the lawful custodian and must invest and reinvest trust and treasury monies in any statutory-outlined investments. Investments of treasury monies are reviewed by the State Board of Investment ([Title 35, Chapter 2, Art. 2, A.R.S.](#)).

Provisions

1. Establishes the Fund consisting of monies appropriated by the Legislature and digital assets seized by this state. (Sec. 1)
2. Instructs the State Treasurer to:
 - a) deposit seized digital assets in the Fund:
 - i. through the use of a secure custody solution by a qualified custodian; or
 - ii. in a form of an exchange traded product issued by a state registered investment company.
 - b) administer the fund. (Sec. 1)
3. Asserts that monies in the Fund are continuously appropriated and exempt from lapsing. (Sec. 1)
4. Prohibits the State Treasurer from investing more than 10% of the total amount of monies deposited in the Fund in any fiscal year. (Sec. 1)
5. Authorizes the State Treasurer to:
 - a) loan digital assets from the Fund to generate additional returns if the loan does not increase any financial risks to Arizona; and
 - b) adopt rules to administer the Fund. (Sec. 1)
6. Defines pertinent terms. (Sec. 1)

☐ Prop 105 (45 votes)

☐ Prop 108 (40 votes)

☐ Emergency (40 votes)

☐ Fiscal Note

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Fifty-seventh Legislature - First Regular Session

ROLL CALL VOTE

COMMITTEE ON Commerce BILL NO. SB 1373

DATE March 18, 2025 MOTION: DP

	PASS	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT
Aguilar			✓		
Blackman		✓			
Cavero			✓		
Connolly			✓		
Diaz		✓			
Hendrix		✓			
Villegas			✓		
Wilmeth		✓			
Way, Vice-Chairman		✓			
Weninger, Chairman		✓			
		6	4	0	0

APPROVED:



JEFF WENINGER, Chairman
MICHAEL WAY, Vice-Chairman



COMMITTEE SECRETARY

ATTACHMENT 7



ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fifty-seventh Legislature

First Regular Session

Senate: FIN DP 4-3-0-0 | 3rd Read 17-11-2-0

SB 1025: public monies; investment; virtual currency

Sponsor: Senator Rogers, LD 7

Committee on Commerce

Overview

Authorizes the State Treasurer or a state retirement system to invest in virtual currency holdings.

History

Statute authorizes and provides guidelines for the [State Treasurer](#) to manage investments of public monies including for the beneficiaries of the State Land Trust, Local Governments and political subdivisions of Arizona and for the State of Arizona along with its respective agencies. The State Treasurer is responsible for the safekeeping of all securities for which they are the lawful custodian and must invest and reinvest trust and treasury monies in any statutory-outlined investments. Investments of treasury monies are reviewed by the State Board of Investment ([Title 35, Chapter 2, Art. 2, A.R.S.](#)).

The Board of the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) is authorized to allocate assets and use investment strategies to meet the investment goals and policies that ASRS prescribes. The ASRS Board may appoint multiple investment managers to invest and reinvest ASRS assets. An investment manager may hold, purchase, sell, assign, loan, borrow, transfer and dispose of any securities and investments in which any account monies are invested, subject to ASRS-determined directives (A.R.S. § [38-718](#)).

The federal government has ordered the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury to establish and administer the [Strategic Bitcoin Reserve and U.S. Digital Asset Stockpile](#).

Provisions

1. Allows the State Treasurer or a state retirement system to invest up to 10% of the public monies under its control in virtual currency holdings. (Sec. 1)
2. Stipulates the State Treasurer or a state retirement system may store its virtual currency holdings in a secure segregated account within the strategic bitcoin reserve, if the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury establishes a strategic bitcoin reserve for the storage of government bitcoin holdings. (Sec. 1)
3. Defines *public fund*, *retirement system* and *virtual currency*. (Sec. 1)
4. Cites the act as the "Arizona Strategic Bitcoin Reserve Act." (Sec. 2)

☐ Prop 105 (45 votes)

☐ Prop 108 (40 votes)

☐ Emergency (40 votes)

☐ Fiscal Note

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Fifty-seventh Legislature - First Regular Session

ROLL CALL VOTE

COMMITTEE ON Commerce BILL NO. SB 1025

DATE March 18, 2025 MOTION: DP

	PASS	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT
Aguilar			✓		
Blackman		✓			
Cavero			✓		
Connolly			✓		
Diaz		✓			
Hendrix		✓			
Villegas			✓		
Wilmeth		✓			
Way, Vice-Chairman		✓			
Weninger, Chairman		✓			
		6	4	0	0

APPROVED:



JEFF WENINGER, Chairman
MICHAEL WAY, Vice-Chairman



COMMITTEE SECRETARY

ATTACHMENT 9



ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fifty-seventh Legislature

First Regular Session

Senate: RAGE DP 4-3-0-0 | 3rd Read 17-12-1-0

SB 1296: unemployment benefits; requirements; disqualifications; determinations

Sponsor: Senator Finchem, LD 1

Committee on Commerce

Overview

Modifies the criteria that an unemployed person must meet to be eligible for Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits. Requires the Department of Economic Security (DES) to cross-check the validity of UI claims against certain data sets.

History

The Department of Economic Security (DES) administers the unemployment insurance benefit program, which provides temporary financial relief to eligible unemployed individuals who separate from their previous employers at no fault of their own. To be eligible for UI [benefits](#), an individual must be able to work, available for work and actively seeking work. Furthermore, the individual must engage in a systematic and sustained effort to obtain work during at least four days of the week and make at least one job contact per day on four different days of the week.

DES examines any claim for benefits and determines whether the claim is valid. DES must promptly notify the claimant of the determination. The claimant has 15 days from the date the notification was mailed to appeal the determination. Individuals who fail to apply for available and suitable work, actively engage in seeking work, accept suitable work when offered or return to customary self-employment as directed by DES are disqualified from UI benefits ([Title 23, Chapter 4, A.R.S.](#)).

Provisions

UI Benefit Eligibility

1. Modifies eligibility requirements by adding that an individual must actively seek and apply for suitable work and:
 - a) conduct at least five specified work search actions each week to qualify as actively seeking and applying for suitable work; and
 - b) provide a weekly report that details the individual's work search actions for every week a benefit is sought. (Sec. 4)
2. Removes the requirement of an individual to engage in a systematic and sustained effort to obtain work during at least four days of the week and make at least one job contact per day on four different days of the week to be eligible for UI benefits. (Sec. 4)

UI Claim Validity

3. Prohibits DES from paying benefits until the initial claim, or an ongoing claim on a weekly basis, is cross-checked for validity against specified data sets. (Sec. 5)

☐ Prop 105 (45 votes)

☐ Prop 108 (40 votes)

☐ Emergency (40 votes)

☐ Fiscal Note

4. Stipulates that a claim will not be paid, and the claimant is disqualified from receiving benefits and referred for prosecution if a cross-check results in information indicating that a claim is ineligible or fraudulent. (Sec. 5)
5. Directs DES, prior to paying benefits, to examine any initial claim and confirm the claim's validity if the initial claim:
 - a) was submitted electronically through an internet address located outside of Arizona or the U.S.;
 - b) references an address for which another current claim was submitted; or
 - c) is associated with a direct deposit for a bank account already used for another current claim. (Sec. 5)
6. Allows DES to refer the matter for prosecution if a fraudulent claim was filed. (Sec. 5)

Disqualification from UI Benefits

7. Restates that an individual is disqualified for UI benefits if the individual has failed without cause to:
 - a) actively seek and apply for suitable work;
 - b) accept an offer of suitable work; or
 - c) accept reemployment at the same employer for suitable work, if offered. (Sec. 6)
8. Directs an employer to report to DES when an individual who was a previous employee:
 - a) refuses to return to work or accept an offer of suitable work; or
 - b) fails to appear for a scheduled interview or respond to an offer of employment. (Sec. 6)
9. Allows employers to submit the required report to DES either digitally or through email. (Sec. 6)
10. Requires DES to conduct an independent review of each submitted report to determine whether an individual should be disqualified from receiving benefits. (Sec. 6)
11. Makes conforming and technical changes. (Sec. 1-6)

PROPOSED
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AMENDMENTS TO S.B. 1296
(Reference to Senate engrossed bill)

Amendment instruction key:

[GREEN UNDERLINING IN BRACKETS] indicates text added to statute or previously enacted session law.
[Green underlining in brackets] indicates text added to new session law or text restoring existing law.
~~[GREEN STRIKEOUT IN BRACKETS]~~ indicates new text removed from statute or previously enacted session law.
~~[Green strikeout in brackets]~~ indicates text removed from existing statute, previously enacted session law or new session law.
<<Green carets>> indicate a section added to the bill.
~~<<Green strikeout in carets>>~~ indicates a section removed from the bill.

- 1 The bill as proposed to be amended is reprinted as follows:
2 Section 1. Section 23-634.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended
3 to read:
4 23-634.01. Denial of benefits for failure to accept suitable
5 work or actively seek work; definition
6 A. Notwithstanding section 23-776, an individual who is found by
7 the department, with respect to any week in an eligibility period ~~which~~
8 ~~THAT~~ begins from and after April 4, 1981, to have failed to apply for or
9 accept available suitable work to which ~~he~~ ~~THE INDIVIDUAL~~ was referred by
10 the department or to have failed to actively engage in seeking work is
11 disqualified from receiving extended benefits. The disqualification shall
12 begin with the week in which the failure occurred and continue until the
13 individual has been employed in each of four subsequent weeks, whether or
14 not consecutive, and has earned remuneration equal to ~~not less than~~ ~~AT~~
15 ~~LEAST~~ four times ~~his~~ ~~THE INDIVIDUAL'S~~ weekly benefit amount.
16 B. An individual shall not be denied extended benefits for failure
17 to accept an offer of or apply for available suitable work as defined in
18 subsection G of this section, if:
19 1. The position was not offered to the individual in writing or was
20 not listed with the department.
21 2. The failure would not result in a denial of benefits under
22 section 23-776 to the extent that the criteria of suitability in section
23 23-776 are not inconsistent with this section.
24 C. If an individual furnishes evidence satisfactory to the
25 department that prospects for obtaining work in ~~his~~ ~~THE INDIVIDUAL'S~~
26 customary occupation within a reasonably short period are good, the
27 determination of whether any work is suitable with respect to the

Adopted ☒ # of Verbals _____

Failed _____ Withdrawn _____

Not Offered _____ Analysts Initials _____

1 individual shall be made in accordance with ~~the provisions of~~ section
2 23-776 without reference to the definition contained in this section.

3 D. Work shall not be considered suitable work under this section if
4 it would not be considered suitable under section 23-776, subsection ~~E~~.

5 E. For the purposes of this section, an individual shall be treated
6 as actively engaged in seeking work during any week if the department
7 finds from tangible evidence provided by the individual that ~~he~~ **THE**
8 **INDIVIDUAL** has engaged in a systematic and sustained effort to obtain work
9 during such week.

10 F. The department shall refer an individual entitled to extended
11 benefits under this chapter to any work ~~which~~ **THAT** is suitable work.

12 G. For the purposes of this section, "suitable work" with respect
13 to any individual means work within the individual's capabilities in
14 which:

15 1. The gross average weekly wages payable for the work exceed the
16 sum of the individual's weekly benefit amount plus the amount of any
17 supplemental unemployment benefits payable to the individual for such
18 week.

19 2. The wages for the work are at least equal to the higher of:

20 (a) The minimum wages provided by section 6(a)(1) of the fair labor
21 standards act of 1938, without regard to any exemption.

22 (b) The state or local minimum wage.

23 Sec. 2. Section 23-762, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
24 read:

25 23-762. Requirements of shared work plan; approval

26 A. An employer ~~wishing~~ **THAT WISHES** to participate in the shared
27 work unemployment compensation program shall submit a signed, written
28 shared work plan to the department for approval. The department shall
29 approve a shared work plan only if the plan:

30 1. Specifies the employees in the affected group.

31 2. Applies to only one affected group.

32 3. If feasible, includes a description of the employer's plan for
33 notifying an employee whose ~~work-week~~ **WORKWEEK** is to be reduced.

34 4. Includes a certified statement by the employer that, for the
35 six-month period immediately preceding the date the plan is submitted,
36 compensation was payable from the shared work employer, or its
37 predecessors whether or not they were shared work employers, to each
38 employee in the affected group in an amount equal to or greater than the
39 wages for insured work in one calendar quarter as provided in section
40 23-771, subsection A, paragraph ~~6~~ 7. An employee who joins an affected
41 group after the approval of the shared work plan is automatically covered
42 under the previously approved plan, effective the week that the department
43 receives written notice from the shared work employer that the employee
44 has joined and certification from the employer that the employee meets the
45 provisions of section 23-771, subsection A, paragraph ~~6~~ 7.

46 5. Includes a certified statement by the employer that for the
47 duration of the plan the reduction in the total normal weekly hours of

1 work of the employees in the affected group is instead of layoffs ~~which~~
2 ~~THAT~~ otherwise would result in at least as large a reduction in the total
3 normal weekly hours of work. The employer shall include an estimate of
4 the number of layoffs that would have occurred without an approved shared
5 work plan.

6 6. Specifies the manner in which the employer will treat fringe
7 benefits of the employees in the affected group if the employees' hours
8 are reduced to less than their normal weekly hours of work. The employer
9 must certify, if the employer provides health benefits and retirement
10 benefits under a defined benefit plan to any employee whose workweek is
11 reduced under the plan, that these benefits will continue to be provided
12 to an employee participating in the shared work plan under the same terms
13 and conditions as though the workweek of the employee had not been reduced
14 or to the same extent as other employees not participating in the shared
15 work program.

16 7. Specifies an expiration date that is ~~no~~ NOT more than one year
17 ~~from~~ AFTER the date the employer submits the plan for approval, except
18 that on written request by the employer, the department may approve an
19 extension of the plan for a period of not more than one year ~~from~~ AFTER
20 the date of the request.

21 8. Is approved in writing by the collective bargaining agent for
22 each collective bargaining agreement that covers any employee in the
23 affected group.

24 B. The plan prescribed in subsection A of this section and the
25 implementation of the plan must be consistent with the employer's
26 obligations under all other federal and state laws.

27 C. The department shall approve or disapprove the plan within
28 fifteen days after receipt of the plan by the department. The department
29 shall notify the employer of the reasons for denial of a shared work plan
30 within ten days ~~of~~ AFTER the determination.

31 Sec. 3. Section 23-763, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
32 read:

33 23-763. Shared work benefits; eligibility; requirements

34 A. An individual is eligible to receive shared work benefits with
35 respect to any week only if, in addition to meeting the requirements of
36 article 6 of this chapter as modified by subsection E of this section, the
37 department finds that during the week:

38 1. The individual is employed as a member of an affected group in
39 an approved plan that was approved before the week and is in effect for
40 the week.

41 2. The individual's normal weekly hours of work were reduced at
42 least ten ~~per-cent~~ PERCENT but not more than forty ~~per-cent~~ PERCENT.

43 3. The individual met the requirements of section 23-771,
44 subsection A, paragraphs 3, ~~and~~ 4 AND 5.

45 B. Eligible individuals may participate in training to enhance job
46 skills, including ~~employer-sponsored~~ EMPLOYER-SPONSORED training or worker

1 training funded under the workforce investment act of 1998, if the
2 training is approved by the department.

3 C. The department shall not pay an individual shared work benefits
4 for more than twenty-six weeks in a benefit year, except that this
5 limitation does not apply to a week if for the period consisting of the
6 week and the immediately preceding twelve weeks the rate, not seasonally
7 adjusted, of insured unemployment in this state is equal to or greater
8 than four ~~per cent~~ PERCENT.

9 D. The total amount of regular benefits and shared work benefits
10 that the department pays to an individual for weeks in the individual's
11 benefit year shall not exceed the total for the benefit year as provided
12 in section 23-780.

13 E. Notwithstanding section 23-621 or any other provision of this
14 chapter, for purposes of this article an individual is unemployed in any
15 week for which compensation is payable to the individual, as an employee
16 in an affected group, for less than the individual's normal weekly hours
17 of work in accordance with an approved plan in effect for the week.

18 Sec. 4. Section 23-771, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
19 read:

20 23-771. Eligibility for benefits

21 A. An unemployed individual is eligible to receive benefits with
22 respect to any week only if the department finds that the individual:

23 1. Has registered for work at and thereafter has continued to
24 report at an employment office in accordance with the regulations
25 prescribed by the department.

26 2. Has made a claim for benefits in accordance with section 23-772.

27 3. Is able to work.

28 4. IS AVAILABLE FOR WORK.

29 ~~4.~~ 5. Except for an individual who is applying for shared work
30 benefits pursuant to article 5.1 of this chapter, ~~is available for work~~
31 ~~and both of the following apply:~~

32 ~~(a) The individual has engaged in a systematic and sustained effort~~
33 ~~to obtain work during at least four days of the week.~~

34 ~~(b) The individual has made at least one job contact per day on~~
35 ~~four different days of the week.~~ ACTIVELY SEEKS AND APPLIES FOR SUITABLE
36 WORK AND:

37 (a) CONDUCTS AT LEAST FIVE WORK SEARCH ACTIONS EACH WEEK IN ORDER
38 TO QUALIFY AS ACTIVELY SEEKING AND APPLYING FOR SUITABLE WORK. THE
39 ACTIONS SHALL INCLUDE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

40 (i) SUBMITTING RESUMES TO EMPLOYERS.

41 (ii) COMPLETING JOB APPLICATIONS AND SUBMITTING THE APPLICATIONS TO
42 EMPLOYERS.

43 (iii) ATTENDING JOB FAIRS THAT ARE RECOGNIZED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND
44 THE INDIVIDUAL'S ATTENDANCE IS VERIFIABLE BY THE DEPARTMENT.

45 (iv) ATTENDING INTERVIEWS WITH POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS.

1 (v) ATTENDING A DEPARTMENT-APPROVED TRAINING PROGRAM THAT INCLUDES
2 A RESUME WRITING SESSION, WHICH SHALL COUNT AS ONE WORK SEARCH ACTION FOR
3 THE WEEK THE INDIVIDUAL ATTENDED THE TRAINING PROGRAM.

4 (b) IF THE INDIVIDUAL IS APPLYING FOR A WEEKLY BENEFIT, PROVIDES A
5 WEEKLY REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT THAT DETAILS THE INDIVIDUAL'S WORK SEARCH
6 ACTIONS FOR EVERY WEEK A BENEFIT IS SOUGHT.

7 ~~5.~~ 6. Has been unemployed for a waiting period of one week. A
8 week is not counted as a week of unemployment for the purpose of this
9 paragraph:

10 (a) Unless it occurs within the benefit year that includes the week
11 with respect to which the individual claims payment of benefits.

12 (b) Unless the individual was eligible for benefits with respect to
13 the week as provided in this section and sections 23-775, 23-776 and
14 23-777.

15 (c) If benefits have been paid in respect to the week.

16 ~~6.~~ 7. Has met one of the following requirements:

17 (a) Has been paid wages for insured work during the individual's
18 base period equal to at least one and one-half times the wages paid to the
19 individual in the calendar quarter of the individual's base period in
20 which the wages were highest, and the individual has been paid wages for
21 insured work in one calendar quarter of the individual's base period equal
22 to an amount that is equal to at least three hundred ninety times the
23 minimum wage prescribed by section 23-363 that is in effect when the
24 individual files a claim for benefits.

25 (b) For a benefit year beginning on or after September 2, 1984, has
26 been paid wages for insured work during at least two quarters of the
27 individual's base period and the amount of the wages paid in one quarter
28 would be sufficient to qualify the individual for the maximum weekly
29 benefit amount payable under this chapter and the total of the
30 individual's base-period wages is equal to or greater than the taxable
31 limit as specified in section 23-622, subsection B, paragraphs 1 and 2.

32 ~~7.~~ 8. Following the beginning date of a benefit year established
33 under this chapter or the unemployment compensation law of any other state
34 and before the effective date of a subsequent benefit year under this
35 chapter, has performed services whether or not in employment as defined in
36 section 23-615 for which wages were payable in an amount equal to or in
37 excess of eight times the weekly benefit amount for which the individual
38 is otherwise qualified under section 23-779. In making a determination
39 under this paragraph, the department shall use information available in
40 its records or require the individual to furnish necessary information
41 within thirty days after the date notice is given that the information is
42 required.

43 B. If an unemployed individual cannot establish a benefit year as
44 defined in section 23-609 due to receipt during the base period of
45 compensation for a temporary total disability pursuant to chapter 6 of
46 this title, or any similar federal law, the individual's base period shall
47 be the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters immediately

preceding the first day of the calendar week in which the disability began. Wages previously used to establish a benefit year may not be reused. This subsection does not apply unless all of the following occur:

1. The individual has filed a claim for benefits not later than the fourth calendar week of unemployment after the end of the period of disability.

2. The claim is filed within two years after the period of disability begins.

3. The individual meets the requirements of subsection A of this section.

4. The individual has attempted to return to the employment where the temporary total disability occurred.

C. If an unemployed individual is a member of the national guard or other reserve component of the United States armed forces, the individual is not considered to be either employed or unavailable for work by reason of the individual's participation in drill, training or other national guard or reserve activity that occurs on not more than one weekend per month or in lieu of a weekend drill or the equivalent.

D. The department shall not disqualify an individual from receiving benefits under this chapter on the basis of the individual's separation from employment if the individual is a victim of domestic violence and leaves employment due to a documented case involving domestic violence pursuant to section 13-3601 or 13-3601.02. Benefits paid to an individual pursuant to this subsection shall not be charged against an employer's account pursuant to section 23-727, subsection G.

E. The department shall not disqualify an individual from receiving benefits under this chapter on the basis of the individual's separation from employment if the individual was terminated from employment for not receiving a COVID-19 vaccine or COVID-19 booster shot required by the employer. Benefits paid to an individual pursuant to this subsection shall not be charged against an employer's account pursuant to section 23-727 if the employer's requirement that employees receive the COVID-19 vaccine or COVID-19 booster shot is required by law.

F. For the purposes of subsection A, paragraph ~~6~~ 7 of this section, wages shall be counted as wages for insured work for benefit purposes with respect to any benefit year only if that benefit year begins subsequent to the date on which the employing unit by which those wages were paid has become an employer subject to this chapter.

Sec. 5. Section 23-773, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

23-773. Examination and determination of claims

A. A representative designated by the department as a deputy shall promptly examine any claim for benefits and, on the basis of the facts found by the deputy, shall determine whether ~~or not~~ the claim is valid. If the claim is valid, the deputy shall also determine the week with respect to which the benefit year shall commence, the weekly benefit amount payable and the maximum duration of the benefit.

1 B. The deputy shall promptly notify the claimant and any other
2 interested parties of the determination and the reasons for the
3 determination. Except as provided in subsection D of this section, unless
4 the claimant or an interested party, within seven calendar days after the
5 delivery of notification, or within fifteen calendar days after
6 notification was mailed to the claimant's or interested party's last known
7 address, files an appeal from the determination, it shall become final,
8 and benefits shall be paid or denied in accordance with the determination.
9 The department shall adopt rules to allow an appeal to be filed in
10 writing, electronically or by telephone. If an appeal tribunal affirms a
11 determination of the deputy allowing benefits, or the appeals board
12 affirms a determination or decision allowing benefits, the benefits shall
13 be paid regardless of any appeal that may thereafter be taken, but if that
14 decision is finally reversed, no employer's account shall be charged with
15 benefits so paid.

16 C. On receipt of a request from an interested party for information
17 about a deputy's determination made pursuant to this section or section
18 23-673, the department shall make available by memorandum or other written
19 document within five days after receipt of the request the following
20 information:

21 1. The facts considered and the facts relied on in making the
22 determination.

23 2. The specific statutes, regulations or other authority relied on
24 in making the determination.

25 3. The reasoning applied in making the determination.

26 D. Before the time for appeal as prescribed in subsection B of this
27 section has expired, an interested party may request a reconsidered
28 determination. The department shall examine the request and, within seven
29 calendar days, deny the request or issue a reconsidered determination.
30 The interested party may prove that a response was timely filed by using
31 evidence of fax records that documents the date and time when a faxed
32 response was transmitted and received by the department. A request for
33 reconsideration that is denied shall be treated as an appeal, and the same
34 procedure shall be followed as provided for in case of appeal from the
35 original determination. If a reconsidered determination is issued, the
36 time for appeal shall run from the date of issuance of the reconsidered
37 determination. The employer and the claimant shall each be ~~permitted no~~
38 ~~ALLOWED NOT~~ more than one request for reconsideration on each case.

39 E. Before the actual filing of an appeal under subsection B of this
40 section, but not later than the time ~~permitted~~ ~~ALLOWED~~ to appeal, the
41 department on its own motion may issue a reconsidered determination.
42 After the time for appeal has expired, but within one year after the
43 issuance of the original determination, the department with authorization
44 of the unemployment insurance program administrator may issue a
45 reconsidered determination, on the basis of newly discovered evidence that
46 by due diligence could not have been previously discovered, if no
47 administrative or judicial review has occurred or is pending on the

1 original determination. If a redetermination is based on fraud, the ~~one~~
2 ~~year~~ ONE-YEAR limitation on the issuance of redeterminations does not
3 apply.

4 F. Prompt notice in writing of any reconsidered determination under
5 subsection E of this section and the reasons for reconsideration shall be
6 given to all interested parties. An interested party may appeal within
7 the time prescribed under subsection B of this section, and the same
8 procedure shall be followed as provided for in case of an appeal from the
9 original determination.

10 G. IN DETERMINING THE VALIDITY OF CLAIMS PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A
11 OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT PAY BENEFITS FOR AN INITIAL OR
12 ONGOING CLAIM UNTIL THE INITIAL CLAIM IS CROSS-CHECKED, OR AN ONGOING
13 CLAIM IS CROSS-CHECKED ON A WEEKLY BASIS, AGAINST THE FOLLOWING DATA SETS:

14 1. THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES' INTEGRITY
15 DATA HUB.

16 2. THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
17 NATIONAL DIRECTORY OF NEW HIRES.

18 3. THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY'S NEW HIRE REPORTING SYSTEM.

19 4. THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS INMATE DATABASES [~~OR A~~
20 ~~THIRD-PARTY, COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE INCARCERATION DATA NETWORK~~].

21 5. THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION'S PRISONER UPDATE PROCESSING
22 SYSTEM.

23 6. THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION'S NATIONAL VITAL
24 STATISTICS SYSTEM'S DEATH RECORDS DATABASE.

25 7. THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES BUREAU OF VITAL RECORDS DEATH
26 RECORDS DATABASE [~~OR A THIRD-PARTY, COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE DEATH RECORDS~~
27 ~~DATABASE~~].

28 8. ~~CURRENT EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME INFORMATION DELIVERABLE~~
29 ~~INSTANTANEOUSLY VIA VERIFICATION SERVICES FROM EXTERNAL DATA SOURCES~~
30 ~~PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-799.01.~~

31 ~~H. TO MAKE THE MOST EFFECTIVE DETERMINATION OF THE POTENTIAL~~
32 ~~VALIDITY OF CLAIMS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PRIORITIZE CROSS-CHECKING THE~~
33 ~~MOST CURRENT DATA SETS, INCLUDING THOSE FROM A COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE~~
34 ~~THIRD-PARTY DATABASE, BEFORE CROSS-CHECKING OLDER DATA SETS~~].

35 [~~H.~~] [I.] IF A CROSS-CHECK PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION G OF THIS SECTION
36 RESULTS IN INFORMATION INDICATING THAT A CLAIM IS INELIGIBLE OR
37 FRAUDULENT, THAT CLAIM MAY NOT BE PAID, AND THE CLAIMANT SHALL BE
38 DISQUALIFIED FROM RECEIVING BENEFITS PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-778 AND
39 REFERRED FOR PROSECUTION.

40 [~~H.~~] [J.] THE DEPARTMENT SHALL EXAMINE ANY INITIAL CLAIM FOR
41 BENEFITS AND CONFIRM ITS VALIDITY BEFORE BENEFITS ARE PAID IF THE INITIAL
42 CLAIM:

43 1. WAS SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH AN INTERNET PROTOCOL
44 ADDRESS LOCATED OUTSIDE OF THIS STATE OR THE UNITED STATES.

45 2. REFERENCES A MAILING ADDRESS OR RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS FOR WHICH
46 ANOTHER CURRENT CLAIM WAS SUBMITTED.

1 3. IS ASSOCIATED WITH A DIRECT DEPOSIT FOR A BANK ACCOUNT ALREADY
2 USED FOR ANOTHER CURRENT CLAIM.

3 ~~[J.]~~ [K.] IF A FRAUDULENT CLAIM WAS FILED, THE DEPARTMENT MAY REFER
4 THE MATTER FOR PROSECUTION.

5 Sec. 6. Section 23-776, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
6 read:

7 23-776. Disqualification from benefits for failure to accept
8 suitable work or actively seek work; exceptions

9 A. An individual shall be disqualified for benefits if the
10 department finds the individual has failed without cause ~~either to apply~~
11 ~~for available, suitable work, when so directed by the employment office or~~
12 ~~the department, to actively engage in seeking work, to accept suitable~~
13 ~~work when offered or to return to the individual's customary~~
14 ~~self-employment when so directed by the department~~ TO ACTIVELY SEEK AND
15 APPLY FOR SUITABLE WORK, TO ACCEPT AN OFFER OF SUITABLE WORK OR TO ACCEPT
16 REEMPLOYMENT AT THE SAME EMPLOYER FOR SUITABLE WORK, IF OFFERED. The
17 disqualification shall begin with the week in which the failure occurred
18 and shall continue for the duration of the individual's unemployment and
19 until the individual has earned wages in an amount equivalent to eight
20 times the individual's weekly benefit amount otherwise payable.

21 B. AN EMPLOYER SHALL REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT WHEN AN INDIVIDUAL
22 WHO WAS PREVIOUSLY EMPLOYED WITH THAT EMPLOYER DOES ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 23 1. REFUSES TO RETURN TO WORK.
24 2. REFUSES TO ACCEPT AN OFFER OF SUITABLE WORK.
25 3. FAILS, WITHOUT CAUSE, TO APPEAR FOR A SCHEDULED INTERVIEW.
26 4. FAILS TO RESPOND TO AN OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT.

27 C. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ALLOW EMPLOYERS TO SUBMIT THE REPORTS
28 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION DIGITALLY OR THROUGH EMAIL AND
29 SHALL CONDUCT AN INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF EACH REPORT TO DETERMINE WHETHER AN
30 INDIVIDUAL SHOULD BE DISQUALIFIED FROM RECEIVING BENEFITS.

31 ~~B.~~ D. In determining whether ~~or not~~ work is suitable for an
32 individual:

33 1. During the first four weeks of a benefit period, the department
34 shall consider the degree of risk involved to the individual's health,
35 safety and morals, the individual's physical fitness and prior training,
36 the individual's experience and prior earnings, the individual's length of
37 unemployment and prospects for securing local work in the individual's
38 customary occupation and the distance of the available work from the
39 individual's residence.

40 2. After the first four weeks of a benefit period, the department
41 shall consider any employment offer that pays one hundred twenty percent
42 of the individual's weekly benefit amount to be suitable work.

43 ~~E.~~ E. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, work
44 shall not be deemed suitable and benefits shall not be denied under this
45 chapter to an otherwise eligible individual for refusing to accept new
46 work under any of the following conditions:

1 1. The position offered is vacant due directly to a strike, lockout
2 or other labor dispute.
3 2. The wages, hours or other conditions of the work offered are
4 substantially less favorable to the individual than those prevailing for
5 similar work in the locality.
6 3. As a condition of being employed, the individual would be
7 required to join a company union or to resign from or refrain from joining
8 a bona fide labor organization.
9 ~~D.~~ F. An individual is considered to have refused an offer of
10 suitable work under subsection A of this section if an offer of work is
11 withdrawn by an employer after an individual either:
12 1. Tests positive for drugs after a drug test given pursuant to
13 chapter 2, article 14 of this title by or on behalf of a prospective
14 employer as a condition of an offer of employment.
15 2. Refuses, without good cause, to submit to a drug test that is
16 required by a prospective employer as a condition of an offer of
17 employment.

18 Enroll and engross to conform
19 Amend title to conform

JEFF WENINGER

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ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Fifty-seventh Legislature - First Regular Session

ROLL CALL VOTE

COMMITTEE ON Commerce BILL NO. SB 1296

DATE March 18, 2025 MOTION: DPA

	PASS	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT
Aguilar			✓		
Blackman		✓			
Cavero			✓		
Connolly			✓		
Diaz		✓			
Hendrix		✓			
Villegas			✓		
Wilmeth		✓			
Way, Vice-Chairman		✓			
Weninger, Chairman		✓			
		6	4	0	0

APPROVED:



JEFF WENINGER, Chairman
MICHAEL WAY, Vice-Chairman



COMMITTEE SECRETARY

ATTACHMENT 12



ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fifty-seventh Legislature

First Regular Session

Senate: FIN DP 7-0-0-0 | 3rd Read 29-0-1-0

SB 1540: personal property exemptions; vehicles

S/E: homestead; personal property; exemptions

Sponsor: Senator Carroll, LD 28

Committee on Commerce

Summary of the Strike-Everything Amendment to SB 1540

Overview

Makes revisions to statutes relating to homestead and personal property exemptions.

History

A homestead exemption is a legal provision that protects a homeowner's primary residence from being seized by creditor to satisfy debts. A homestead is the primary residence of an owner that under the state's homestead exemption is protected from seizure or sale of debt up to \$400,000 of a person's equity in their dwelling. Under current law, the homestead can be a house, condominium, cooperative apartment, or mobile home in which the person resides plus the land upon which the mobile home is located ([A.R.S. § 33-1101](#)).

Statute outlines personal property exemptions from the bankruptcy process and other actions to collect from a debtor. The exemptions include specified amounts of money or proceeds. [Laws 2022, Chapter 346](#) exempts the refundable portion of federal or state earned income tax credits (EITC) and federal or state child tax credits and sets the exemption amount at the lesser of either: 1) the total combined amount of any federal and state tax refunds; or 2) the total combined amount of any federal or state EITCs and any federal or state child tax credits claimed on the return ([Title 33, Chapter 8, Art. 2, A.R.S.](#)).

Provisions

1. Includes park model trailers, motor homes, travel trailers, fifth wheel trailers, houseboats and other forms of shelter in which a person resides, plus the land, to the property types that qualify for the homestead exemption. (Sec. 1)
2. Specifies that the homestead exemption does not attach to a person's interest in identifiable cash proceeds from refinancing the homestead property. (Sec. 1)
3. Requires, for bankruptcy cases, the debtor's homestead exemption amount to initially be determined as of the date the bankruptcy petition is filed. (Sec. 1)
4. Stipulates if a debtor's value in the homestead is less than or equal to the amount of the homestead exemption at the time of bankruptcy filing, the homestead property and any value increase during case pendency is 100% exempt from the bankruptcy proceeding regardless of whether the debtor's interest increases above the homestead exemption amount. (Sec. 1)

☐ Prop 105 (45 votes)

☐ Prop 108 (40 votes)

☐ Emergency (40 votes)

☒ [Fiscal Note](#)

5. Maintains statutory provisions relating to determining the amount of equity in a homestead property. (Sec. 1)
6. Exempts all federal or state personal income tax credits from any federal or state earned income tax credits or child tax credits from execution, attachment or sale on any process issued from any court and includes a calculation on determining the amount of the exemption. (Sec. 2)
7. Repeals statute relating to homestead exemptions as enacted by the Legislature. (Sec. 3)
8. Repeals statute relating to monies or proceeds exempt execution, attachment or sale on any process issued from any court as enacted by the Legislature. (Sec. 3)
9. Applies the homestead value bankruptcy requirements to any petition for bankruptcy proceedings filed after the effective date. (Sec. 4)
10. Makes technical and conforming changes. (Sec. 1-4)

PROPOSED

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AMENDMENTS TO S.B. 1540

(Reference to Senate engrossed bill)

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert:

2 "Section 1. Section 33-1101, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by
3 proposition 209, election of November 8, 2022, is amended to read:

4 33-1101. Homestead exemptions; persons entitled to hold
5 homesteads; annual adjustment

6 A. Any person ~~the age of~~ WHO IS AT LEAST eighteen ~~or over~~ YEARS OF
7 AGE, married or single, AND who resides within ~~the~~ THIS state may hold as a
8 homestead exempt from attachment, execution and forced sale, not exceeding
9 \$400,000 in value, any one of the following:

10 1. The person's interest in real property in one compact body ~~upon~~
11 ON which exists a dwelling house in which the person resides.

12 2. The person's interest in one condominium or cooperative in which
13 the person resides.

14 3. A mobile home, PARK MODEL TRAILER, MOTOR HOME, TRAVEL TRAILER,
15 FIFTH WHEEL TRAILER, HOUSEBOAT OR OTHER FORM OF SHELTER in which the person
16 resides PLUS THE LAND ON WHICH THAT SHELTER IS LOCATED.

17 ~~4. A mobile home in which the person resides plus the land upon~~
18 ~~which that mobile home is located.~~

19 B. Only one homestead exemption may be held by a married couple or a
20 single person under this section. The value as specified in this section
21 refers to the equity of a single person or married couple. If a married
22 couple lived together in a dwelling house, a condominium or
23 cooperative, ~~OR a mobile home or a mobile home plus land on which the~~
24 ~~mobile home~~ FORM OF SHELTER PRESCRIBED BY SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 3 OF THIS
25 SECTION PLUS THE LAND ON WHICH IT is located and are then divorced, the

Adopted ☒ # of Verbals _____
Failed _____ Withdrawn _____
Not Offered _____ Analysts Initials _____

1 total exemption THAT IS allowed for that residence to either or both
2 persons shall not exceed \$400,000 in value.

3 C. The homestead exemption, not exceeding the value provided for in
4 subsection A OF THIS SECTION, as adjusted by subsection D of this section,
5 automatically attaches to the person's interest in identifiable cash
6 proceeds from the voluntary or involuntary sale of the property. The
7 homestead exemption in identifiable cash proceeds continues for eighteen
8 months after the date of the sale of the property or until the person
9 establishes a new homestead with the proceeds, whichever period is
10 shorter. THE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION DOES NOT ATTACH TO THE PERSON'S INTEREST
11 IN IDENTIFIABLE CASH PROCEEDS FROM REFINANCING THE HOMESTEAD PROPERTY.
12 Only one homestead exemption at a time may be held by a person under this
13 section.

14 D. The homestead exemption provided by this section shall be
15 adjusted annually beginning on January 1, 2024 and thereafter on January 1
16 of each successive year by the increase in the cost of living. The increase
17 in the cost of living shall be measured by the percentage increase as of
18 August of the immediately preceding year over the level as of August of the
19 previous year of the consumer price index (all urban consumers, United
20 States city average for all items) or its successor index as published by
21 the United States department of labor, bureau of labor statistics, or its
22 successor agency, with the amount of the exemption rounded up to the
23 nearest \$100.

24 E. FOR THE PURPOSES OF DETERMINING THE AMOUNT OF EQUITY IN A
25 HOMESTEAD PROPERTY THAT IS SOLD OR FOR DETERMINING WHETHER THE PROPERTY
26 OWNER IS RECEIVING CASH BACK FROM REFINANCING THE HOMESTEAD PROPERTY, THE
27 PARTIES MAY RELY ON THE VALUATION OF THE PROPERTY IN THE FINAL CLOSING
28 DOCUMENT DISCLOSURE THAT IS USED FOR THAT TRANSACTION.

29 F. FOR ANY CASE FILED UNDER TITLE 11, UNITED STATES CODE, THE AMOUNT
30 OF THE DEBTOR'S HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION INITIALLY SHALL BE DETERMINED AS OF THE
31 DATE THE BANKRUPTCY PETITION IS FILED. IF THE VALUE IN THE HOMESTEAD IS
32 LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO THE AMOUNT PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION
33 AT THE TIME OF FILING, INCLUDING ANY INCREASE PRESCRIBED BY SUBSECTION D OF

1 THIS SECTION, THE HOMESTEAD PROPERTY IS ONE HUNDRED PERCENT EXEMPT AND ANY
2 INCREASE IN THE VALUE OF THE HOMESTEAD DURING THE PENDENCY OF THE
3 BANKRUPTCY CASE IS ONE HUNDRED PERCENT EXEMPT WITHOUT REGARD TO WHETHER THE
4 DEBTOR'S INTEREST INCREASES ABOVE THE AMOUNT PRESCRIBED BY SUBSECTION A OF
5 THIS SECTION, INCLUDING ANY INCREASE PRESCRIBED BY SUBSECTION D OF THIS
6 SECTION.

7 Sec. 2. Section 33-1126, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by
8 proposition 209, election of November 8, 2022, is amended to read:

9 33-1126. Money benefits or proceeds; exception

10 A. The following property of a debtor is exempt from execution,
11 attachment or sale on any process issued from any court:

12 1. All money received by or payable to a surviving spouse or child
13 on the life of a deceased spouse, parent or legal guardian, OF not
14 ~~exceeding twenty thousand dollars~~ MORE THAN \$20,000.

15 2. The earnings of the minor child of a debtor or the proceeds of
16 these earnings by reason of any liability of the debtor not contracted for
17 the special benefit of the minor child.

18 3. All monies received by or payable to a person entitled to receive
19 child support or spousal maintenance pursuant to a court order.

20 4. All money, proceeds or benefits of any kind to be paid in a lump
21 sum or to be rendered on a periodic or installment basis to the insured or
22 any beneficiary under any policy of health, accident or disability
23 insurance or any similar plan or program of benefits in use by any
24 employer, except for premiums payable on the policy or debt of the insured
25 secured by a pledge, and except for collection of any debt or obligation
26 for which the insured or beneficiary has been paid under the plan or policy
27 and except for payment of amounts ordered for support of a person from
28 proceeds and benefits furnished in lieu of earnings that would have been
29 subject to that order and subject to any exemption applicable to earnings
30 so replaced.

31 5. All money arising from any claim for the destruction of, or
32 damage to, exempt property and all proceeds or benefits of any kind arising
33 from fire or other insurance on any property exempt under this article.

1 6. The cash surrender value of life insurance policies where for a
2 continuous unexpired period of two years the policies have been owned by a
3 debtor. The policy shall have named as beneficiary the debtor's surviving
4 spouse, child, parent, brother or sister. The policy may have named as
5 beneficiary any other family member who is a dependent, in the proportion
6 that the policy names any such beneficiary, except that, subject to the
7 statute of limitations, the amount of any premium that is recoverable or
8 avoidable by a creditor pursuant to title 44, chapter 8, article 1, with
9 interest ~~thereon~~ ON THAT AMOUNT, is not exempt. The exemption provided by
10 this paragraph does not apply to a claim for the payment of a debt of the
11 insured or beneficiary that is secured by a pledge or assignment of the
12 cash value of the insurance policy or the proceeds of the policy. For the
13 purposes of this paragraph, "dependent" means a family member who is
14 dependent on the insured debtor for not less than half support.

15 7. An annuity contract where for a continuous unexpired period of
16 two years that contract has been owned by a debtor and has named as
17 beneficiary the debtor, the debtor's surviving spouse, child, parent,
18 brother or sister, or any other dependent family member, except that,
19 subject to the statute of limitations, the amount of any premium, payment
20 or deposit with respect to that contract is recoverable or avoidable by a
21 creditor pursuant to title 44, chapter 8, article 1 is not exempt. The
22 exemption provided by this paragraph does not apply to a claim for a
23 payment of a debt of the annuitant or beneficiary that is secured by a
24 pledge or assignment of the contract or its proceeds. For the purposes of
25 this paragraph, "dependent" means a family member who is dependent on the
26 debtor for not less than half support.

27 8. Any claim for damages recoverable by any person by reason of any
28 levy on or sale under execution of that person's exempt personal property
29 or by reason of the wrongful taking or detention of that property by any
30 person, and the judgment recovered for damages.

31 9. A total of \$5,000 held in a single account in any one financial
32 institution as defined by section 6-101. The property declared exempt by
33 this paragraph is not exempt from normal service charges assessed against

1 the account by the financial institution at which the account is carried.
2 The exemption prescribed in this paragraph shall be adjusted annually
3 beginning on January 1, 2024 and thereafter on January 1 of each successive
4 year by the increase in the cost of living. The increase in the cost of
5 living shall be measured by the percentage increase as of August of the
6 immediately preceding year over the level as of August of the previous year
7 of the consumer price index (all urban consumers, United States city
8 average for all items) or its successor index as published by the United
9 States department of labor, bureau of labor statistics, or its successor
10 agency, with the amount of the exemption rounded up to the nearest \$100.

11 10. An interest in a college savings plan under section 529 of the
12 internal revenue code of 1986, either as the owner or as the beneficiary.
13 This does not include money contributed to the plan within two years before
14 a debtor files for bankruptcy.

15 11. ALL FEDERAL OR STATE PERSONAL INCOME TAX CREDITS FROM ANY
16 FEDERAL OR STATE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDITS OR FEDERAL OR STATE CHILD TAX
17 CREDITS. THE AMOUNT OF THE EXEMPTION SHALL BE THE LESSER OF THE TOTAL
18 COMBINED AMOUNT OF FEDERAL AND STATE TAX REFUNDS OR THE TOTAL COMBINED
19 AMOUNT OF ANY FEDERAL OR STATE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDITS AND ANY FEDERAL OR
20 STATE CHILD TAX CREDITS CLAIMED ON THE RETURN.

21 B. Any money or other assets payable to a participant in or
22 beneficiary of, or any interest of any participant or beneficiary in, a
23 retirement plan under section 401(a), 403(a), 403(b), 408, 408A or 409 or a
24 deferred compensation plan under section 457 of the United States internal
25 revenue code of 1986, as amended, whether the beneficiary's interest arises
26 by inheritance, designation, appointment or otherwise, is exempt from all
27 claims of creditors of the beneficiary or participant. This subsection
28 does not apply to any of the following:

29 1. An alternate payee under a qualified domestic relations order, as
30 defined in section 414(p) of the United States internal revenue code of
31 1986, as amended. The interest of any and all alternate payees is exempt
32 from any and all claims of any creditor of the alternate payee.

1 2. Amounts contributed within one hundred twenty days before a
2 debtor files for bankruptcy.

3 3. The assets of bankruptcy proceedings filed before July 1, 1987.

4 C. Any person WHO IS AT LEAST eighteen years of age ~~or over~~, married
5 or single, who resides within this state and who does not exercise the
6 homestead exemption under article 1 of this chapter may claim as a personal
7 property homestead exempt from all process prepaid rent, including security
8 deposits as provided in section 33-1321, subsection A, for the claimant's
9 residence, OF not ~~exceeding two thousand dollars~~ MORE THAN \$2,000.

10 D. This section does not exempt property from orders that are the
11 result of a judgment for arrearages of child support or for a child support
12 debt.

13 Sec. 3. Repeal

14 A. Section 33-1101, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by Laws
15 2021, chapter 368, section 3, is repealed.

16 B. Section 33-1126, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by Laws
17 2022, chapter 346, section 1, is repealed.

18 Sec. 4. Applicability

19 Section 33-1101, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by section 1 of
20 this act, applies to any petition for bankruptcy proceedings that is filed
21 after the effective date of this act."

22 Amend title to conform

JEFF WENINGER

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ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Fifty-seventh Legislature - First Regular Session

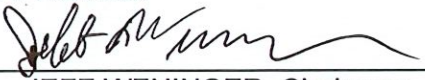
ROLL CALL VOTE

COMMITTEE ON Commerce BILL NO. SB 1540

DATE March 18, 2025 MOTION: DPAS/E

	PASS	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT
Aguilar		✓			
Blackman		✓			
Cavero		✓			
Connolly		✓			
Diaz		✓			
Hendrix		✓			
Villegas		✓			
Wilmeth		✓			
Way, Vice-Chairman		✓			
Weninger, Chairman		✓			
		10	0	0	0

APPROVED:



JEFF WENINGER, Chairman
MICHAEL WAY, Vice-Chairman



COMMITTEE SECRETARY

ATTACHMENT 15



ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fifty-seventh Legislature

First Regular Session

Senate: RAGE DP 6-1-0-0 | 3rd Read 20-9-1-0

SB 1467: liquor; consumption; watercraft

Sponsor: Senator Shope, LD 16

Committee on Commerce

Overview

Modifies certain restrictions, for a government series liquor license, relating to the operation of a dock and boats as a licensed premises.

History

The Department of Liquor Licenses and Control (DLLC) regulates the manufacture, distribution and sale of liquor in Arizona through the issuance of a series of licenses and investigating licensee compliance with liquor laws. Certain liquor licenses have on-sale retail [privileges](#) allowing a customer to purchase and consume liquor on the licensed premises.

DLLC may issue a government license to any state agency, state board, state commission, county, city, town, community college or state university, the National Guard or the Arizona Exposition and State Fair Board on application authorized by the governing body of the entity. A licensee may sell and serve spirituous liquors solely for consumption on the licensed premises for which the license is issued. A licensed single premises may consist of no more than one dock area that is designated by a city or town and is situated on a lake owned by the city or town with no more than 30 boats that are operated on the lake.

Currently, the following apply to the operation of a dock and boats as a licensed premises: 1) liquor may be sold only for consumption on the premises in conjunction with consumption of food; 2) liquor cannot be served or consumed on the dock nor be served on a boat earlier than 15 minutes before the boat is scheduled to depart from the dock and after a boat returns to the dock; 3) a person cannot be served more than 50 ounces of beer, one liter of wine or four ounces of distilled spirits at one time while on a boat; 4) a person cannot bring liquor onto a boat other than liquor purchased by the licensee or a concessionaire for resale; 5) the pilot of each boat, all crew members and all persons who sell or serve liquor on each boat are deemed the licensee's employees; 6) the pilot of each boat must have a current and valid coast guard operator's license or successfully completed an approved safety and operator training course; 7) liquor cannot be served, consumed or possessed by a customer on the boat between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.; and 8) applicable liquor laws and rules apply to sales and consumption of liquor on the licensed premises.

Boat is defined as a seaworthy vessel designed to carry and capable of carrying between 15 and 45 passengers, that has a displacement of no more than 10 tons and possesses a current coast guard certificate (A.R.S. § [4-205.03](#)).

Provisions

☐ Prop 105 (45 votes)	☐ Prop 108 (40 votes)	☐ Emergency (40 votes)	☐ Fiscal Note
--	--	---	--------------------------------------

1. Removes the requirement, relating to a government license, that the sale of liquor be in conjunction with the consumption of food. (Sec. 1)
2. Changes the time, relating to a government license, for which liquor may only be served, consumed or possessed by a customer on a boat to between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. (Sec. 1)
3. Modifies the definition of *boat*. (Sec. 1)
4. Makes technical changes. (Sec. 1)

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Fifty-seventh Legislature - First Regular Session

ROLL CALL VOTE

COMMITTEE ON _____ Commerce _____ BILL NO. _____ SB 1467

DATE _____ March 18, 2025 _____ MOTION: DP

	PASS	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT
Aguilar		✓			
Blackman		✓			
Cavero		✓			
Connolly		✓			
Diaz		✓			
Hendrix		✓			
Villegas		✓			
Wilmeth		✓			
Way, Vice-Chairman		✓			
Weninger, Chairman		✓			
		10	0	0	0

APPROVED:



JEFF WENINGER, Chairman
MICHAEL WAY, Vice-Chairman



COMMITTEE SECRETARY

ATTACHMENT 17



ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fifty-seventh Legislature

First Regular Session

Senate: FIN DP 6-1-0-0 | 3rd Read 24-3-3-0

SB 1551: workers' compensation; disability; definitions

Sponsor: Senator Leach, LD 17

Committee on Commerce

Overview

Changes the basis of the schedule of fees relating to workers' compensation.

History

The Industrial Commission of Arizona (ICA) administers and enforces state laws relating to the protection of life, health, safety and welfare of Arizona's employees, including workers' compensation. Worker's compensation insurance provides coverage of medical costs, rehabilitation and lost wages for an employee who has suffered injury or illness in the course of performing job related duties ([Title 23, Chapter 6, A.R.S.](#)).

Every employer and physician who attends an injured employee of that employer must file a full and complete report of every known injury to the employee arising out of or in the course of employment and resulting in the loss of life or injury with the ICA and the employer's insurance carrier from time to time. The ICA must fix a schedule of fees to be charged by physicians, physical therapists or occupational therapists attending injured employees and for prescriptions required to treat an injured employee. The ICA must annually review the schedule of fees (A.R.S. § [23-908](#)).

An employee who is injured by accident arising out of and in the course of employment receives a statutorily fixed compensation based on the employee's average monthly wage. For temporary total disability, the compensation is 66.67% of their average monthly wage for the period of disability with an additional allowance of \$25 per month for employee's with dependents (A.R.S. §§ [23-1041](#), [20-1044](#)).

Provisions

1. Changes the schedule of fees for workers' compensation to be associated with charges for medical care, dental care and supplies that are received by injured employees, rather than charges by physicians, physical therapists or occupational therapists attending injured employees. (Sec. 2)
2. Exempts contracts that are necessary to develop and publish a fee schedule related to dental care from the requirements of the State Procurement Code. (Sec. 2)
3. Instructs the ICA to publish the schedule of fees on its website. (Sec. 2)
4. Adds that the ICA is not required to publish the schedule of fees in the Arizona Administrative Register. (Sec. 2)
5. Increases, from \$25 to \$100, the monthly dependent allowance provided to an employee in addition to compensation for a temporary total disability. (Sec. 3)

☐ Prop 105 (45 votes)

☐ Prop 108 (40 votes)

☐ Emergency (40 votes)

☐ Fiscal Note

6. Modifies the definition of *interest party* to include the third-party administrator or an authorized representative of a deceased employee. (Sec. 1)

PROPOSED
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AMENDMENTS TO S.B. 1551
(Reference to Senate engrossed bill)

Amendment instruction key:

[GREEN UNDERLINING IN BRACKETS] indicates text added to statute or previously enacted session law.
[Green underlining in brackets] indicates text added to new session law or text restoring existing law.
[GREEN STRIKEOUT IN BRACKETS] indicates new text removed from statute or previously enacted session law.
[Green strikeout in brackets] indicates text removed from existing statute, previously enacted session law or new session law.
<<Green carets>> indicate a section added to the bill.
<<Green strikeout in carets>> indicates a section removed from the bill.

1 The bill as proposed to be amended is reprinted as follows:
2 Section 1. Section 23-901, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:
4 23-901. Definitions
5 In this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:
6 1. "Award" means the finding or decision of an administrative law
7 judge or the commission as to the amount of compensation or benefit due an
8 injured employee or the dependents of a deceased employee.
9 2. "Client" means an individual, association, company, firm,
10 partnership, corporation or any other legally recognized entity that is
11 subject to this chapter and that enters into a professional employer
12 agreement with a professional employer organization.
13 3. "Co-employee" means every person employed by an injured
14 employee's employer.
15 4. "Commission" means the industrial commission of Arizona.
16 5. "Compensation" means the compensation and benefits provided by
17 this chapter.
18 6. "Employee", "workman", "worker" and "operative" means:
19 (a) Every person in the service of this state or a county, city,
20 town, municipal corporation or school district, including regular members
21 of lawfully constituted police and fire departments of cities and towns,
22 whether by election, appointment or contract of hire.
23 (b) Every person in the service of any employer subject to this
24 chapter, including aliens and minors legally or illegally allowed to work
25 for hire, but not including a person whose employment is both:
26 (i) Casual.
27 (ii) Not in the usual course of the trade, business or occupation
28 of the employer.
29 (c) Lessees of mining property and the lessees' employees and
30 contractors engaged in the performance of work that is a part of the
31 business conducted by the lessor and over which the lessor retains
32 supervision or control are within the meaning of this paragraph employees

1 of the lessor, and are deemed to be drawing wages as are usually paid
2 employees for similar work. The lessor may deduct from the proceeds of
3 ores mined by the lessees the premium required by this chapter to be paid
4 for such employees.

5 (d) Regular members of volunteer fire departments organized
6 pursuant to title 48, chapter 5, article 1, regular firefighters of any
7 volunteer fire department, including private fire protection service
8 organizations, organized pursuant to title 10, chapters 24 through 40,
9 volunteer firefighters serving as members of a fire department of any
10 incorporated city or town or an unincorporated area without pay or without
11 full pay and on a part-time basis, and voluntary policemen and volunteer
12 firefighters serving in any incorporated city, town or unincorporated area
13 without pay or without full pay and on a part-time basis, are deemed to be
14 employees, but for the purposes of this chapter, the basis for computing
15 wages for premium payments and compensation benefits for regular members
16 of volunteer fire departments organized pursuant to title 48, chapter 5,
17 article 1, or organized pursuant to title 10, chapters 24 through 40,
18 regular members of any private fire protection service organization,
19 volunteer firefighters and volunteer policemen of these departments or
20 organizations shall be the salary equal to the beginning salary of the
21 same rank or grade in the full-time service with the city, town, volunteer
22 fire department or private fire protection service organization, provided
23 if there is no full-time equivalent then the salary equivalent shall be as
24 determined by resolution of the governing body of the city, town or
25 volunteer fire department or corporation.

26 (e) Members of the department of public safety reserve, organized
27 pursuant to section 41-1715, are deemed to be employees. For the purposes
28 of this chapter, the basis for computing wages for premium payments and
29 compensation benefits for a member of the department of public safety
30 reserve who is a peace officer shall be the salary received by officers of
31 the department of public safety for the officers' first month of regular
32 duty as an officer. For members of the department of public safety
33 reserve who are not peace officers, the basis for computing premiums and
34 compensation benefits is \$400 a month.

35 (f) Any person placed in on-the-job evaluation or in on-the-job
36 training under the department of economic security's temporary assistance
37 for needy families program or vocational rehabilitation program shall be
38 deemed to be an employee of the department for the purpose of coverage
39 under the state workers' compensation laws only. The basis for computing
40 premium payments and compensation benefits shall be \$200 per month. Any
41 person receiving vocational rehabilitation services under the department
42 of economic security's vocational rehabilitation program whose major
43 evaluation or training activity is academic, whether as an enrolled
44 attending student or by correspondence, or who is confined to a hospital
45 or penal institution, shall not be deemed to be an employee of the
46 department for any purpose.

1 (g) Regular members of a volunteer sheriff's reserve, which may be
2 established by resolution of the county board of supervisors, to assist
3 the sheriff in the performance of the sheriff's official duties. A roster
4 of the current members shall monthly be certified to the clerk of the
5 board of supervisors by the sheriff and shall not exceed the maximum
6 number authorized by the board of supervisors. Certified members of an
7 authorized volunteer sheriff's reserve shall be deemed to be employees of
8 the county for the purpose of coverage under the Arizona workers'
9 compensation laws and occupational disease disability laws and shall be
10 entitled to receive the benefits of these laws for any compensable
11 injuries or disabling conditions that arise out of and occur in the course
12 of the performance of duties authorized and directed by the sheriff.
13 Compensation benefits and premium payments shall be based on the salary
14 received by a regular full-time deputy sheriff of the county involved for
15 the first month of regular patrol duty as an officer for each certified
16 member of a volunteer sheriff's reserve. This subdivision does not
17 provide compensation coverage for any member of a sheriff's posse who is
18 not a certified member of an authorized volunteer sheriff's reserve except
19 as a participant in a search and rescue mission or a search and rescue
20 training mission.

21 (h) A working member of a partnership may be deemed to be an
22 employee entitled to the benefits provided by this chapter on written
23 acceptance, by endorsement, at the discretion of the insurance carrier for
24 the partnership of an application for coverage by the working partner.
25 The basis for computing premium payments and compensation benefits for the
26 working partner shall be an assumed average monthly wage of not less than
27 \$600 or more than the maximum wage provided in section 23-1041 and is
28 subject to the discretionary approval of the insurance carrier. Any
29 compensation for permanent partial or permanent total disability payable
30 to the partner is computed on the lesser of the assumed monthly wage
31 agreed to by the insurance carrier on the acceptance of the application
32 for coverage or the actual average monthly wage received by the partner at
33 the time of injury.

34 (i) The sole proprietor of a business subject to this chapter may
35 be deemed to be an employee entitled to the benefits provided by this
36 chapter on written acceptance, by endorsement, at the discretion of the
37 insurance carrier of an application for coverage by the sole proprietor.
38 The basis for computing premium payments and compensation benefits for the
39 sole proprietor is an assumed average monthly wage of not less than \$600
40 or more than the maximum wage provided by section 23-1041 and is subject
41 to the discretionary approval of the insurance carrier. Any compensation
42 for permanent partial or permanent total disability payable to the sole
43 proprietor shall be computed on the lesser of the assumed monthly wage
44 agreed to by the insurance carrier on the acceptance of the application
45 for coverage or the actual average monthly wage received by the sole
46 proprietor at the time of injury.

1 (j) A member of the Arizona national guard, Arizona state guard or
2 unorganized militia shall be deemed a state employee and entitled to
3 coverage under the Arizona workers' compensation law at all times while
4 the member is receiving the payment of the member's military salary from
5 this state under competent military orders or on order of the governor.
6 Compensation benefits shall be based on the monthly military pay rate to
7 which the member is entitled at the time of injury, but not less than a
8 salary of \$400 per month or more than the maximum provided by the workers'
9 compensation law. Arizona compensation benefits shall not inure to a
10 member compensable under federal law.

11 (k) Certified ambulance drivers and attendants who serve without
12 pay or without full pay on a part-time basis are deemed to be employees
13 and entitled to the benefits provided by this chapter and the basis for
14 computing wages for premium payments and compensation benefits for
15 certified ambulance personnel shall be \$400 per month.

16 (l) Volunteer workers of a licensed health care institution may be
17 deemed to be employees and entitled to the benefits provided by this
18 chapter on written acceptance by the insurance carrier of an application
19 by the health care institution for coverage of such volunteers. The basis
20 for computing wages for premium payments and compensation benefits for
21 volunteers shall be \$400 per month.

22 (m) Personnel who participate in a search or rescue operation or a
23 search or rescue training operation that carries a mission identifier
24 assigned by the division of emergency management as provided in section
25 35-192.01 and who serve without compensation as volunteer state employees.
26 The basis for computation of wages for premium purposes and compensation
27 benefits is the total volunteer man-hours recorded by the division of
28 emergency management in a given quarter multiplied by the amount
29 determined by the appropriate risk management formula.

30 (n) Personnel who participate in emergency management training,
31 exercises or drills that are duly enrolled or registered with the division
32 of emergency management or any political subdivision as provided in
33 section 26-314, subsection C and who serve without compensation as
34 volunteer state employees. The basis for computation of wages for premium
35 purposes and compensation benefits is the total volunteer man-hours
36 recorded by the division of emergency management or political subdivision
37 during a given training session, exercise or drill multiplied by the
38 amount determined by the appropriate risk management formula.

39 (o) Regular members of the Arizona game and fish department
40 reserve, organized pursuant to section 17-214. The basis for computing
41 wages for premium payments and compensation benefits for a member of the
42 reserve is the salary received by game rangers and wildlife managers of
43 the Arizona game and fish department for the game rangers' and wildlife
44 managers' first month of regular duty.

45 (p) Every person employed pursuant to a professional employer
46 agreement.

1 (q) A working member of a limited liability company who owns less
2 than fifty percent of the membership interest in the limited liability
3 company.

4 (r) A working member of a limited liability company who owns fifty
5 percent or more of the membership interest in the limited liability
6 company may be deemed to be an employee entitled to the benefits provided
7 by this chapter on the written acceptance, by endorsement, of an
8 application for coverage by the working member at the discretion of the
9 insurance carrier for the limited liability company. The basis for
10 computing wages for premium payments and compensation benefits for the
11 working member is an assumed average monthly wage of \$600 or more but not
12 more than the maximum wage provided in section 23-1041 and is subject to
13 the discretionary approval of the insurance carrier. Any compensation for
14 permanent partial or permanent total disability payable to the working
15 member is computed on the lesser of the assumed monthly wage agreed to by
16 the insurance carrier on the acceptance of the application for coverage or
17 the actual average monthly wage received by the working member at the time
18 of injury.

19 (s) A working shareholder of a corporation who owns less than fifty
20 percent of the beneficial interest in the corporation.

21 (t) A working shareholder of a corporation who owns fifty percent
22 or more of the beneficial interest in the corporation may be deemed to be
23 an employee entitled to the benefits provided by this chapter on the
24 written acceptance, by endorsement, of an application for coverage by the
25 working shareholder at the discretion of the insurance carrier for the
26 corporation. The basis for computing wages for premium payments and
27 compensation benefits for the working shareholder is an assumed average
28 monthly wage of \$600 or more but not more than the maximum wage provided
29 in section 23-1041 and is subject to the discretionary approval of the
30 insurance carrier. Any compensation for permanent partial or permanent
31 total disability payable to the working shareholder is computed on the
32 lesser of the assumed monthly wage agreed to by the insurance carrier on
33 the acceptance of the application for coverage or the actual average
34 monthly wage received by the working shareholder at the time of injury.

35 7. "General order" means an order applied generally throughout this
36 state to all persons under jurisdiction of the commission.

37 8. "Heart-related or perivascular injury, illness or death" means
38 myocardial infarction, coronary thrombosis or any other similar sudden,
39 violent or acute process involving the heart or perivascular system, or
40 any death resulting therefrom, and any weakness, disease or other
41 condition of the heart or perivascular system, or any death resulting
42 therefrom.

43 9. "Insurance carrier" means every insurance carrier duly
44 authorized by the director of the department of insurance and financial
45 institutions to write workers' compensation or occupational disease
46 compensation insurance in this state.

- 1 10. "Interested party" means the employer, the employee, or if the
2 employee is deceased, the employee's estate, the surviving spouse or
3 dependents, the commission, the insurance carrier, ~~or their~~ **THE THIRD**
4 **PARTY ADMINISTRATOR OR AN AUTHORIZED** representative.
- 5 11. "Mental injury, illness or condition" means any mental,
6 emotional, psychotic or neurotic injury, illness or condition.
- 7 12. "Order" means and includes any rule, direction, requirement,
8 standard, determination or decision other than an award or a directive by
9 the commission or an administrative law judge relative to any entitlement
10 to compensation benefits, or to the amount of compensation benefits, and
11 any procedural ruling relative to the processing or adjudicating of a
12 compensation matter.
- 13 13. "Personal injury by accident arising out of and in the course
14 of employment" means any of the following:
- 15 (a) Personal injury by accident arising out of and in the course of
16 employment.
- 17 (b) An injury caused by the wilful act of a third person directed
18 against an employee because of the employee's employment, but does not
19 include a disease unless resulting from the injury.
- 20 (c) An occupational disease that is due to causes and conditions
21 characteristic of and peculiar to a particular trade, occupation, process
22 or employment, and not the ordinary diseases to which the general public
23 is exposed, and subject to section 23-901.01 or 23-901.09 or, for
24 heart-related, perivascular or pulmonary cases, section 23-1105.
- 25 14. "Professional employer agreement" means a written contract
26 between a client and a professional employer organization:
- 27 (a) In which the professional employer organization expressly
28 agrees to co-employ all or a majority of the employees providing services
29 for the client. In determining whether the professional employer
30 organization employs all or a majority of the employees of a client, any
31 person employed pursuant to the terms of the professional employer
32 agreement after the initial placement of client employees on the payroll
33 of the professional employer organization shall be included.
- 34 (b) That is intended to be ongoing rather than temporary in nature.
- 35 (c) In which employer responsibilities for worksite employees,
36 including hiring, firing and disciplining, are expressly allocated between
37 the professional employer organization and the client in the agreement.
- 38 15. "Professional employer organization" means any person engaged
39 in the business of providing professional employer services. Professional
40 employer organization does not include a temporary help firm or an
41 employment agency.
- 42 16. "Professional employer services" means the service of entering
43 into co-employment relationships under this chapter to which all or a
44 majority of the employees providing services to a client or to a division
45 or work unit of a client are covered employees.
- 46 17. "Serve" or "service" means either:
- 47 (a) Mailing to the last known address of the receiving party.

(b) Transmitting by ~~[other means, including]~~ electronic transmission[, ~~with the written consent of the receiving party~~] [IN A MANNER REASONABLY CALCULATED TO ACHIEVE EFFECTIVE NOTICE UNLESS THE RECEIVING PARTY OPTS OUT BY PROVIDING WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE OTHER PARTY].

18. "Special order" means an order other than a general order.

19. "Weakness, disease or other condition of the heart or perivascular system" means arteriosclerotic heart disease, cerebral vascular disease, peripheral vascular disease, cardiovascular disease, angina pectoris, congestive heart trouble, coronary insufficiency, ischemia and all other similar weaknesses, diseases and conditions, and also previous episodes or instances of myocardial infarction, coronary thrombosis or any similar sudden, violent or acute process involving the heart or perivascular system.

20. "Workers' compensation" means workmen's compensation as used in article XVIII, section 8, Constitution of Arizona.

Sec. 2. Section 23-908, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

23-908. Injury reports by employer and physician; schedule of fees; notification; public meeting; violation; classification

A. Every employer that is affected by this chapter, and every physician who attends an injured employee of that employer, shall file with the commission and the employer's insurance carrier from time to time a full and complete report of every known injury to the employee arising out of or in the course of employment and resulting in loss of life or injury requiring medical treatment. The report shall be furnished to the commission and the insurance carrier at times and in the form and detail the commission prescribes, and the report shall make special answers to all questions required by the commission under its rules. For the purposes of this subsection, medical treatment does not include any onetime, short-term treatment by nonmedical staff that requires little technology or training to administer, including treatment of minor scratches, cuts, burns and splinters and other issues that ordinarily do not require medical care.

B. The commission shall fix a schedule of fees to be charged ~~by physicians, physical therapists or occupational therapists attending~~ FOR MEDICAL CARE, DENTAL CARE AND SUPPLIES THAT ARE RECEIVED BY injured employees and, subject to subsection C of this section, for prescription medicines required to treat an injured employee under this chapter. CONTRACTS THAT ARE NECESSARY TO DEVELOP AND PUBLISH A FEE SCHEDULE RELATED TO DENTAL CARE ARE EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF TITLE 41, CHAPTER 23. Notwithstanding subsection C of this section, the schedule of fees may include other reimbursement guidelines for medications dispensed in settings that are not accessible to the general public. The commission shall annually review the schedule of fees. For the purposes of this subsection, settings that are not accessible to the general public do not

1 include mail order pharmacies delivering pharmaceutical services to
2 workers' compensation claimants, if both of the following apply:

3 1. The pharmacy does not limit or restrict access to claimants with
4 an affiliation to a medical provider or other entity.

5 2. Any medical provider or other entity referring a claimant to the
6 pharmacy does not receive or accept any rebate, refund, commission,
7 preference or other consideration as compensation for the referral.

8 C. If a schedule of fees for prescription medicines adopted
9 pursuant to subsection B of this section includes provisions regarding the
10 use of generic equivalent drugs or interchangeable biological products,
11 those provisions shall comply with section 32-1963.01, subsections A, B
12 and D through L. If the commission considers the adoption of fee schedule
13 provisions that involve specific prices, values or reimbursements for
14 prescription drugs, the commission shall base the adoption on studies or
15 practices that are validated and accepted in the industry, including the
16 applicability of formulas that use average wholesale price, plus a
17 dispensing fee, and that have been made publicly available for at least
18 one hundred eighty days before any hearing conducted by the commission.
19 Before the commission takes final action on the schedule of fees pursuant
20 to this subsection and subsection B of this section, except during a
21 public health emergency, the commission shall:

22 1. Prominently post on its publicly accessible website the proposed
23 schedule of fees at least thirty days before conducting a public hearing
24 on that proposed schedule of fees.

25 2. Hold at least one meeting that all interested parties may
26 jointly attend and interactively participate in after posting the proposed
27 schedule of fees but before conducting the hearing on the proposed
28 schedule of fees.

29 3. At least seven business days in advance, prominently post on its
30 publicly accessible website the final proposed schedule of fees to be
31 acted on for adoption.

32 D. Notwithstanding section 12-2235, information obtained by any
33 physician or surgeon examining or treating an injured person shall not be
34 considered a privileged communication if that information is requested by
35 interested parties for a proper understanding of the case and a
36 determination of the rights involved. Hospital records of an employee
37 concerning an industrial claim shall not be considered privileged if
38 requested by an interested party in order to determine the rights
39 involved. Medical information from any source pertaining to conditions
40 unrelated to the pending industrial claim shall remain privileged.

41 E. When an accident occurs to an employee, the employee shall
42 forthwith report the accident and the injury resulting from the accident
43 to the employer, and any physician employed by the injured employee shall
44 forthwith report the accident and the injury resulting from the accident
45 to the employer, the insurance carrier and the commission.

46 F. If an accident occurs to an employee, the employer may designate
47 in writing a physician chosen by the employer, who shall be allowed by the

1 employee, or any person in charge of the employee, to make one examination
2 of the injured employee in order to ascertain the character and extent of
3 the injury occasioned by the accident. The physician so chosen shall
4 forthwith report to the employer, the insurance carrier and the commission
5 the character and extent of the injury as the physician ascertains. If
6 the accident is not reported by the employee or the employee's physician
7 forthwith, as required, or if the injured employee or those in charge of
8 the employee refuse to allow the employer's physician to make the
9 examination, and the injured employee is a party to the refusal, no
10 compensation shall be paid for the injury claimed to have resulted from
11 the accident. The commission may relieve the injured person or that
12 person's dependents from the loss or forfeiture of compensation if ~~it~~ **THE**
13 **COMMISSION** believes after investigation that the circumstances attending
14 the failure on the part of the employee or physician to report the
15 accident and injury are such as to have excused them.

16 G. Within ten days after receiving notice of an accident, the
17 employer shall inform the insurance carrier and the commission on the
18 forms and in the manner as prescribed by the commission.

19 H. Immediately on notice to the employer of an accident resulting
20 in an injury to an employee, the employer shall provide the employee with
21 the name and address of the employer's insurance carrier, the policy
22 number and the expiration date.

23 **I. THE COMMISSION SHALL PUBLISH ON THE COMMISSION'S PUBLICLY**
24 **ACCESSIBLE WEBSITE THE SCHEDULE OF FEES AS PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTIONS B AND**
25 **C OF THIS SECTION. THE COMMISSION IS NOT REQUIRED TO PUBLISH THE SCHEDULE**
26 **OF FEES IN THE ARIZONA ADMINISTRATIVE REGISTER.**

27 ~~it~~ **J.** Any person failing or refusing to comply with this section
28 is guilty of a petty offense.

29 ~~it~~ **K.** Subsection B of this section does not prohibit:

30 1. A health care provider or pharmacy from entering into a separate
31 contract or network that governs fees, in which case reimbursement shall
32 be made according to the applicable contracted charge or negotiated rate.

33 2. An employer from directing medical, surgical or hospital care
34 pursuant to section 23-1070.

35 Sec. 3. Section 23-1045, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
36 read:

37 23-1045. Compensation for total disability; permanent total
38 disability defined

39 A. For temporary total disability the following compensation shall
40 be paid:

41 1. Compensation of sixty-six and two-thirds ~~per cent~~ **PERCENT** of the
42 average monthly wage shall be paid during the period of disability.

43 2. If there are persons dependent for support ~~upon~~ **ON** the employee,
44 compensation shall be paid as provided in this section, with an additional
45 allowance of ~~twenty-five dollars~~ **\$100** per month for such dependents during
46 the period of disability. The additional allowance shall not be based

1 ~~upon~~ ON a per capita number of dependents but shall reflect a total
2 monthly benefit increase of exactly ~~twenty-five dollars~~ \$100.

3 B. For permanent total disability, compensation of sixty-six and
4 two-thirds ~~per cent~~ PERCENT of the average monthly wage shall be paid
5 during the life of the injured person.

6 C. In the absence of proof to the contrary, disability shall be
7 deemed total and permanent if caused by:

8 1. The total and permanent loss of sight of both eyes.

9 2. The loss by separation of both feet.

10 3. The loss by separation of both hands.

11 4. An injury to the spine resulting in permanent and complete
12 paralysis of both legs or both arms, or one leg and one arm.

13 5. An injury to the skull resulting in incurable imbecility or
14 insanity.

15 6. The loss by separation of one hand and one foot.

16 D. The enumeration in this section is not exclusive, and in all
17 other cases permanent total disability shall be determined in accordance
18 with the facts and in accordance with ~~the provisions of~~ section 23-1047.

19 Enroll and engross to conform

20 Amend title to conform

JEFF WENINGER

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ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Fifty-seventh Legislature - First Regular Session

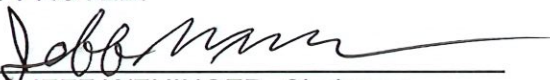
ROLL CALL VOTE

COMMITTEE ON Commerce BILL NO. SB 1551

DATE March 18, 2025 MOTION: DPA

	PASS	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT
Aguilar		✓			
Blackman		✓			
Cavero		✓			
Connolly		✓			
Diaz		✓			
Hendrix			✓		
Villegas		✓			
Wilmeth		✓			
Way, Vice-Chairman		✓			
Weninger, Chairman		✓			
		9	1	0	0

APPROVED:



JEFF WENINGER, Chairman
MICHAEL WAY, Vice-Chairman



COMMITTEE SECRETARY

ATTACHMENT 20