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

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Report of Regular Meeting
Wednesday, February 11, 2026
House Hearing Room 1 -- 9:00 A.M.

RECEIVED
CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE
FEB 12 2026

Convened 9:04 A.M.
Recessed
Reconvened
Adjourned 9:47 A.M.

Members Present
Representative Austin
Representative Carbone
Representative Cavero
Representative Hendrix
Representative Travers
Representative Weninger
Representative Wilmeth
Representative Peña, Vice-Chairman
Representative Rivero, Chairman

Members Not Present
Representative Hernandez

Agenda
Original Agenda – Attachment 1
Request to Speak
Report – Attachment 2
Committee Attendance
Report – Attachment 3

Presentations

Name	Organization	Attachments (Handouts)
Alan Renteria	Councilman & President of the Chamber of Commerce Puerto Penasco	4

Committee Action

Bill	Action	Vote	Attachments
HB2746	HELD		5, 6
HB2751	DP	7-1-1-1	7, 8
HB2752	DP	9-0-0-1	9, 10
HB2753	DPA	9-0-0-1	11, 12, 13

Christie Kuhl, Committee Secretary
February 12, 2026

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

Conv. 9:04
Adj. 9:47

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

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE

DATE Wednesday, February 11, 2026 ROOM HHR 1 TIME 9:00 A.M.

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting here:
https://www.azleg.gov/videoplayer/?clientID=6361162879&eventID=2026021068

Members:

Representative Austin	Representative Hernandez C	Representative Wilmeth
Representative Carbone	Representative Travers	Representative Peña, Vice-Chairman
Representative Cavero	Representative Weninger	Representative Rivero, Chairman
Representative Hendrix		

- Presentation: Rocky Point – Alan Rentería, Councilman of Puerto Peñasco & President of the Chamber of Commerce of Puerto Peñasco

Bills		Short Title	Strike Everything Title
HB2746	Held	trade offices study committee (Rivero) IT, RULES	
HB2751	DP 7-1-1-1	Arizona competes fund; repeal (Rivero) IT, RULES	
HB2752	DP 9-0-0-1	commerce authority; trade offices (Rivero) IT, RULES	
HB2753	DPA 9-0-0-1	board of directors; commerce authority (Rivero) IT, RULES	

ORDER OF BILLS TO BE SET BY THE CHAIRMAN

RA
02/05/2026

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.

Attachment 1

Information Registered on the Request to Speak System

House International Trade (2/11/2026)

HB2746, trade offices study committee

HB2751, Arizona competes fund; repeal

Support:

Eric Emmert, Arizona Association For Economic Development , East Valley Chambers Of Commerce Alliance ; Mike Huckins, GREATER PHOENIX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; Courtney Coolidge, AZ CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; Barb Hinderland, representing self; Nancy Kolter, representing self

Oppose:

Greg Blackie, AZ FREE ENTERPRISE CLUB; Cornel Choskey, representing self; Onita Davis, representing self; Shirley Dye, representing self; Darlene Younker, representing self; Cathy Schwanke, representing self; Mike Sullivan, representing self; Vicki Bendau, representing self; Shirley Lamonna, representing self; Patrick Smith, representing self; Randal Scott, representing self; Elizabeth King, representing self; C D Tavares, representing self; M. Petersen, representing self; Arthur Fesler-Butts, representing self; Michael Steffens, representing self; Jeanne Tavares, representing self; Bonnie Kistler, representing self; Greg Kistler, representing self; Stephen Harris, representing self; Corinne Haynes, representing self; Leslie White, representing self; Buffalo Rick Galeener, representing self; Ute Edge, representing self; Susan Bolt, representing self; Linda Busam, representing self; William & Mary Jurica, representing self; Debbie Joy, representing self; Dianna Gates, representing self; Bridget Nelke, representing self; Carole Challoner, representing self; Randy Brown, representing self; Sydney Brown, representing self; Melanie Hutchings, representing self; James McFadzean, representing self; Jana Reible, representing self; April Smith, representing self; Jean Ferguson, representing self; Christi Sourk, representing self; Jamie Alford, representing self; Sue Unverricht, representing self; Carmela Barna, representing self; Catherine Tunget, representing self; Cherie Anello, representing self; Peter Anello, representing self; K Webster, representing self; Lisa Stuessel, representing self; Lorraine S, representing self; Pam Reinke, representing self; Thomas Reiner, representing self; Jane Waypa, representing self; Mozelle Ault, representing self; Charlyce Knight, representing self; Vicky D'Ascoli, representing self; Earl Taylor, representing self; Starr Costa, representing self; Carol Kliewer, representing self; Colleen Ryan, representing self; Thomas Simacek, representing self; Carol Stines, representing self; Carolyn Davidson, representing self; Eric Lovelis, representing self; Merl Nielsen, representing self; Danielle Ramos, representing self; Daniel Spencer, representing self; Kathryn Farkas, representing self; Jean Rice, representing self; louise liggett, representing self; karen enns, representing self; Jane Breakiron, representing self; Connie Wright, representing self; Jeffrey Luft, representing self; Mary Jamsa, representing self; Roy Scott Lassell, representing self; Doris Mills, representing self; patricia wheeler, representing self; Barton Anderson, representing self; Shuron Harvey, representing self; Bill Harenburg, representing self; Sarah Rowse, representing self; Jane Evans, representing self; Laurel Lynn Scott, representing self; Lydia Choskey, representing self; conrad tolson, representing self; Barbara Scott, representing self; MARY PRIEBE, representing self; Patricia Phillips, representing self; Barbara Carter, representing self; Lorene Anderson, representing self; James Reggin, representing self; Ronald Pardini, representing self; Kate Cusumano, representing self; Sandee McKinlay, representing self; eileen acosta,

Attachment 2

representing self; Donalda Bond, representing self; James Roth, representing self; Anne Girdler, representing self; Bonnie Lund, representing self; Steve Kolter, representing self; George Duffield, representing self; Patricia Keitel, representing self; Lynda Patrick-Hayes, LD10STRONG!, representing self; Clare Goldsberry, representing self; Shay Cardell, representing self; Katherine Cabianca, representing self; Lynda Brady, representing self; Chandrasekhar Doniparthi, representing self; Dayle Hartgerink, representing self; Anne Fesler-Butts, representing self; Ryan Larson, representing self; Bev Miller, representing self; Helen Fong, representing self; Joelene Williamson, representing self; Valerie Berger, representing self; Gary Zimmerman, representing self; Margaret Barnes, representing self; Renee Yarbrough, representing self; Roberta Ravella, representing self; Valerie Starr, representing self; Cheryl Pardini, representing self; Jenny Hallstrom, representing self; Tony Dudzinski, representing self; brenda simon, representing self; Douglas Simon, representing self; Vickie Parks, representing self; Donald Koeppen, representing self; Marlene Leatherwood, representing self; Wayne Sapp, representing self; LEE YARBROUGH, representing self

All Comments:

Eric Emmert, Arizona Association For Economic Development , East Valley Chambers Of Commerce Alliance : .; Shirley Dye, Self: The AZ Competes Fund was repealed for good reason. Subsidizing corporations with taxpayers money is bad business. Too many perks to benefit Corps that should be able to make it on their own while we struggle. Keep it terminated. Gone for good.; Randal Scott, Self: No to this one; M. Petersen, Self: It is time for this program to end; Arthur Fesler-Butts, Self: Retired vet, '07 ASU Honors Grad: Life member; NCOA, AZCDL, DAV, American Legion, ASU Alumni, NRA, Kiwanis member, 20+yrs PC, I urge you to oppose this Bill. This is a fraud to give gifts to special interest who never relocates to AZ/; Stephen Harris, Self: We should repeal this slush fund, with a history of violating the constitution, not extending it!; Ute Edge, Self: waste of tax payer Mony.; Linda Busam, Self: The AG found that this fund was buying Superbowl tickets and cocktails for businesses who never even relocated here, in violation of the Arizona gift clause. This program should be repealed entirely, not extended!; Debbie Joy, Self: No more slush funds!; Dianna Gates, Self: This slush should be repealed, since it has a history of violating the Constitution. Do not extend it for this reason.; Bridget Nelke, Self: I OPPOSE THIS BILL VOTE NO; Randy Brown, Self: Let's STOP trying to reanimate this Zombie program. It's dead and buried (none to soon) and needs to be left in its grave. Wasteful, pointless, and unnecessary spending directed to political friends. Does AZ no good!; Sydney Brown, Self: Slush funds are not appropriate and need to be eliminated!; Melanie Hutchings, Self: No more fraud needed.; James McFadzean, Self: This basically reestablishes the Arizona completes fund, which is a slush fund for corporate welfare.; April Smith, Self: Repeal the slush fund, please do not extend this fund. It has a history of violating the Constitution.; Sue Unverricht, Self: Current statute already has a repeal date. The competes fund is a slush fund for the AZ Commerce Authority. Violates gift clause.; Catherine Tunget, Self: Repeal this slush fund!; Lisa Stuessel, Self: This slush fund has a history of violating the constitution, VOTE NO on extending it.; Mozelle Ault, Self: Absolutely NO!; Starr Costa, Self: This should stay terminated. Very misleading short title. By repealing 41-1545.05 it reestablishes the AZ competes fund, which is a slush fund for corporate welfare.; Thomas Simacek, Self: No to corporate welfare!; Carol Stines, Self: Stop this wasteful slush fund; Kathryn Farkas, Self: Repeal this slush fund, with history of violating the constitution, not extending it!; louise liggett, Self: No way. You are too good at stealing & wasting our hard -earned income.; Mary Jamsa, Self: Repeals the repeal of the Competes Fund, a slush fund for the Arizona Commerce Authority. We should repeal this slush fund, with a history of violating the constitution, not extending it/1; Roy Scott Lassell, Self: I do not support this bill. Slush funds are inappropriate for our state and need to be eliminated.; Barton Anderson, Self: This slush fund offers too many opportunities for fraudulent activity.; Sarah Rowse, Self: Appears to be unconstitutional; Laurel Lynn Scott, Self: Disgusting; conrad tolson, Self: This fund should be allowed to sunset now; no further extension; Patricia Phillips, Self: Repeal this slush fund. Don't extend it. Precinct Committeeman; Barbara Carter, Self: Unconstitutional; Sandee McKinlay, Self: All for eliminating the abuse of tax dollars for any personal entertainment.; James Roth, Self: We should repeal this slush fund, with a history of violating the constitution, not extending it! The auditor

general found that this fund was buying Superbowl tickets and cocktails for businesses who never even relocated here.; Bonnie Lund, Self: This is an open door to violate the Arizona gift clause. Abuse!; George Duffield, Self: We need to focus on AZ not on foreign trade.; Patricia Keitel, Self: We should repeal this slush fund, with a history of violating the constitution, not extending it!; Clare Goldsberry, Self: This slush fund needs to go away permanently - it violates the gift clause.; Lynda Brady, Self: Common sense certainly suggest we repeal this misused and abused slush fund. Please!; Dayle Hartgerink, Self: Repeal this slush fund, not reviving it. No extension! LD28; Anne Fesler-Butts, Self: As a retired M.D., USAR LTC, Life member: AZCDL, NCOA Aux, DAV, American Legion, NRA, member of Kiwanis, I urge you to oppose this Bill. this helps no one but special interest who never relocates here. Just a waste of tax money.; Joelene Williamson, Self: Do not support. Don't double down on a slush fund with a history of constitutional violations — repeal it.; Gary Zimmerman, Self: "Slush" funds like this abuse taxpayer money.; Renee Yarbrough, Self: This slush fund should go away; Tony Dudzinski, Self: Please vote no on HB2751. Thank you.; Douglas Simon, Self: Repeal!; Donald Koeppen, Self: Slush funds like this are ridiculous! Please stop this program completely.

HB2752, commerce authority; trade offices

HB2753, board of directors; commerce authority

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

Fifty-seventh Legislature - Second Regular Session

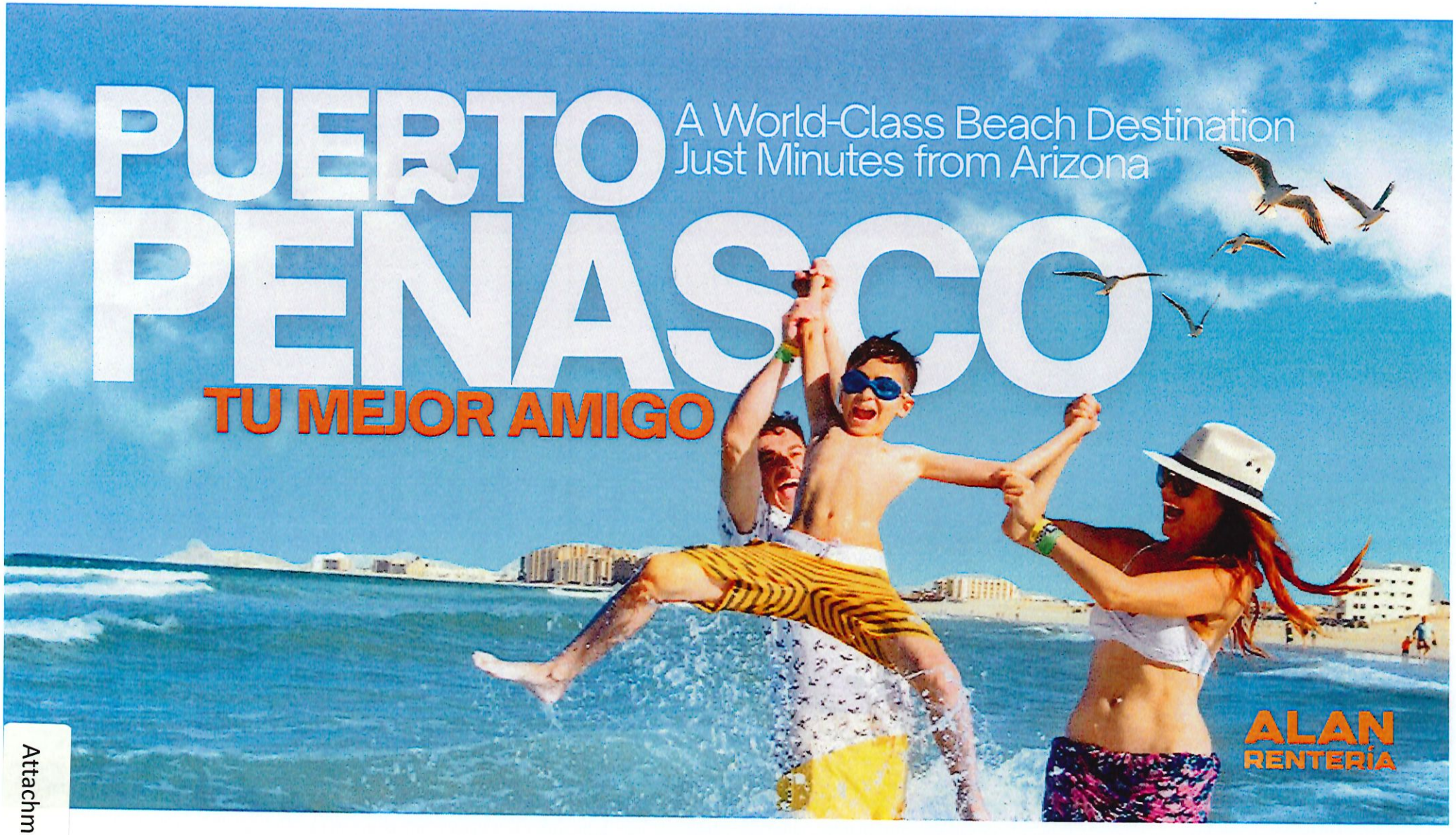
COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE RECORD

COMMITTEE ON **INTERNATIONAL TRADE**

CHAIRMAN: Tony Rivero VICE-CHAIRMAN: Michele Peña

DATE	02/11/26	
CONVENED	9:04 am	
RECESSED	9:47 am	
RECONVENED		
ADJOURNED		
MEMBERS	PRESENT	NOT PRESENT
Austin	✓	
Carbone	✓	
Cavero	✓	
Hendrix	✓	
Hernandez C		✓
Travers	✓	
Weninger	✓	
Wilmeth	✓	
Peña, Vice-Chairman	✓	
Rivero, Chairman	✓	
TOTAL	9	1

Attachment 3



Attachment 4


STRATEGIC
TOURISM POSITION
• Over **2 million** visitors per year
• The closest Mexican beach destination to Arizona
• 3.5–4 hours driving distance from Phoenix
• Strong cross-border tourism flow

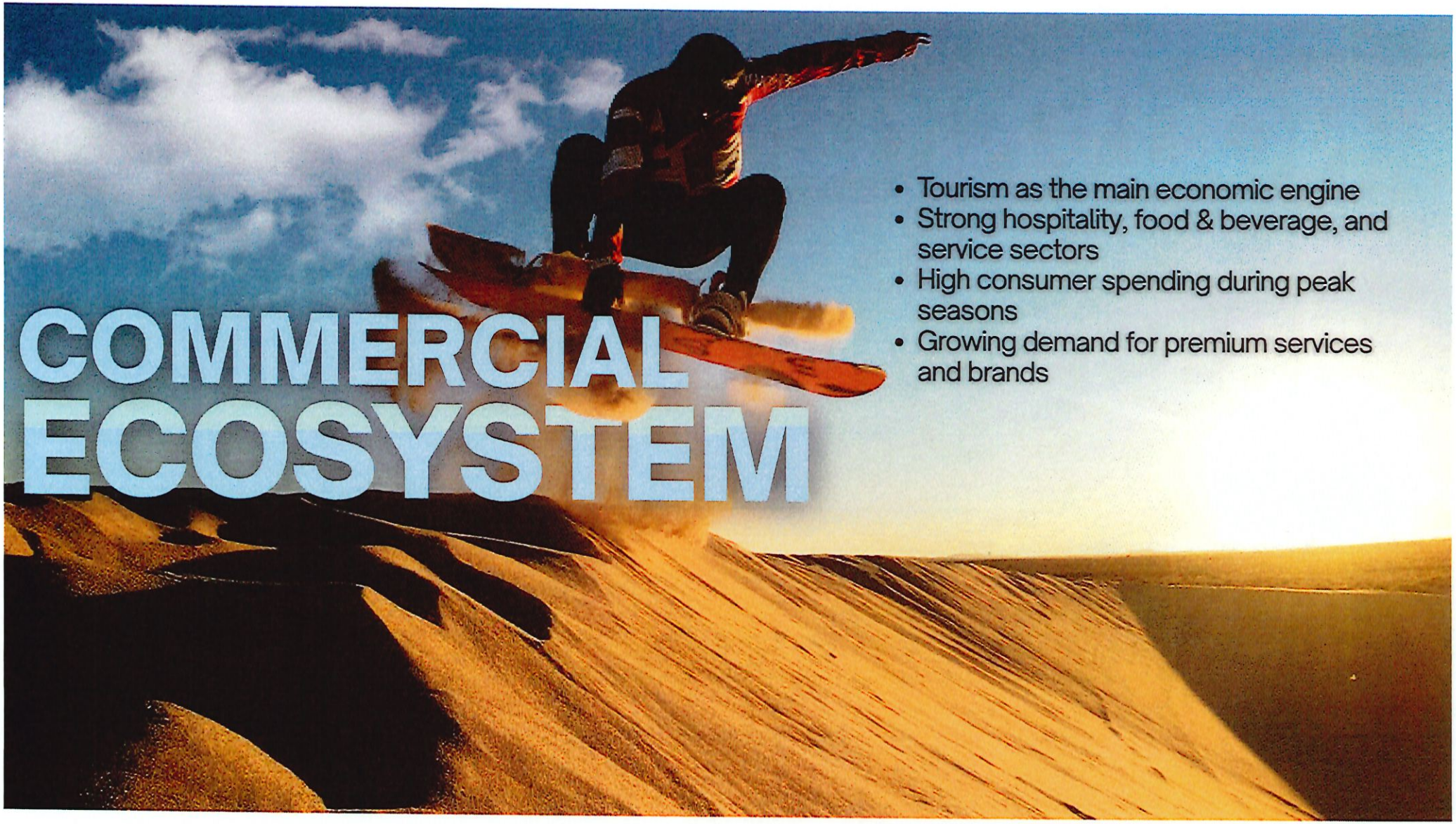


A DESTINATION *with identity*

WHERE DESERT MEETS THE SEA

- Unique landscape: desert + Sea of Cortez
- High repeat visitation from U.S. travelers
- Strong weekend and seasonal demand
- Year-round tourism supported by climate
- Established destination with proven performance


TOURISM AT A GLANCE
A Proven Tourism Engine
• Sport fishing & boating
• ATV rides & desert adventures
• Golf courses with ocean views
• Whale watching (seasonal)
• Gastronomy & local seafood


COMMERCIAL
ECOSYSTEM
• Tourism as the main economic engine
• Strong hospitality, food & beverage, and service sectors
• High consumer spending during peak seasons
• Growing demand for premium services and brands


SAFETY, STABILITY & INSTITUTIONAL COOPERATION
• Puerto Peñasco is a high-volume tourism destination with a **strong safety record for visitors**.
• Ongoing efforts to **strengthen security coordination**, particularly in tourist zones and main access corridors.
• Enhanced **collaboration between local authorities and regional partners** focused on prevention and visitor protection.
• Millions of visitors annually with **very low incidence involving tourists.**
PROGRESS THROUGH COORDINATION

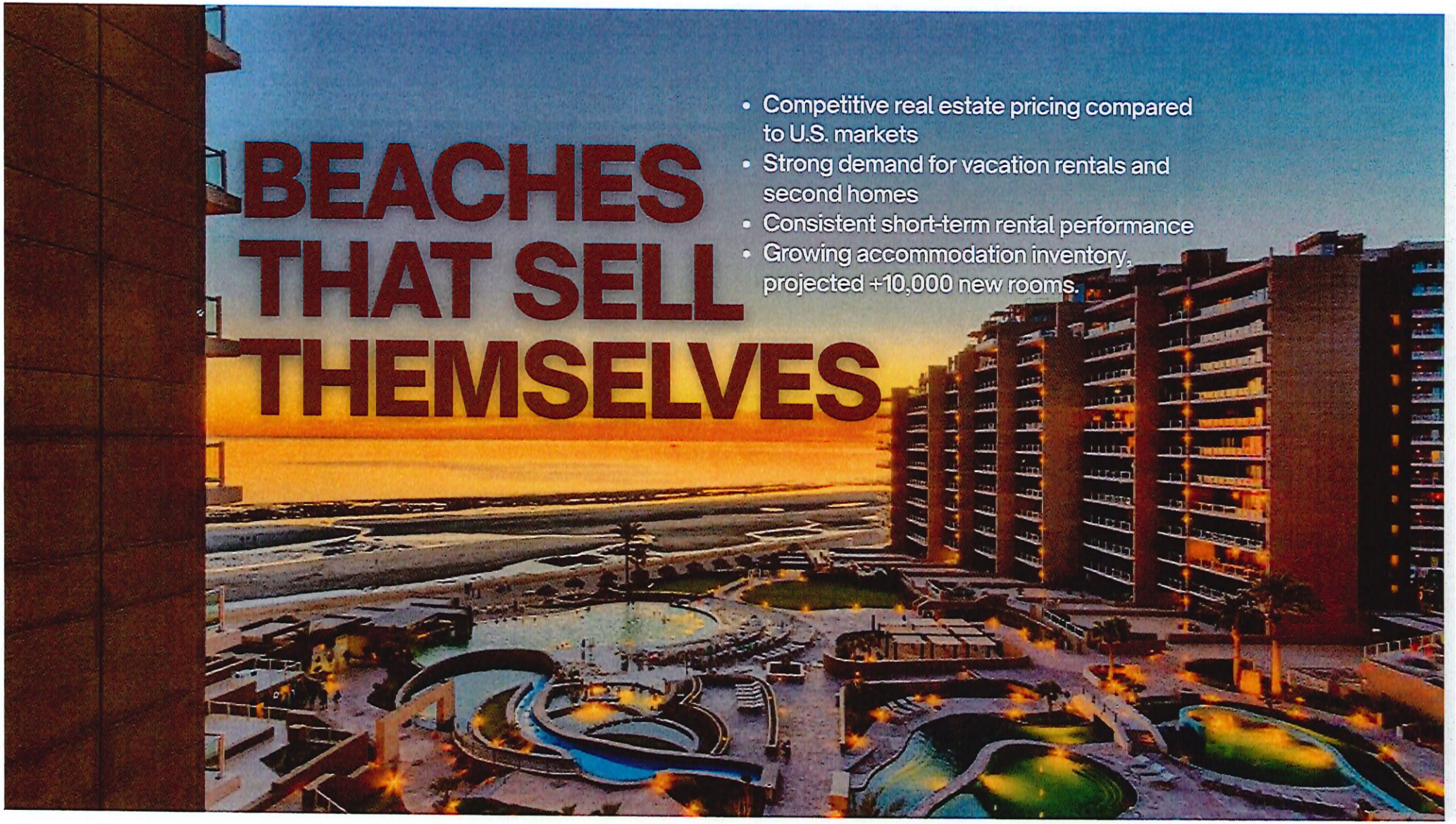

REGIONAL
INTEGRATION
READY TO WELCOME THE WORLD
• Close economic ties with Arizona
• Natural extension of U.S. travel and consumption patterns
• Cross-border collaboration opportunities
• Ideal setting for U.S.–Mexico business engagement

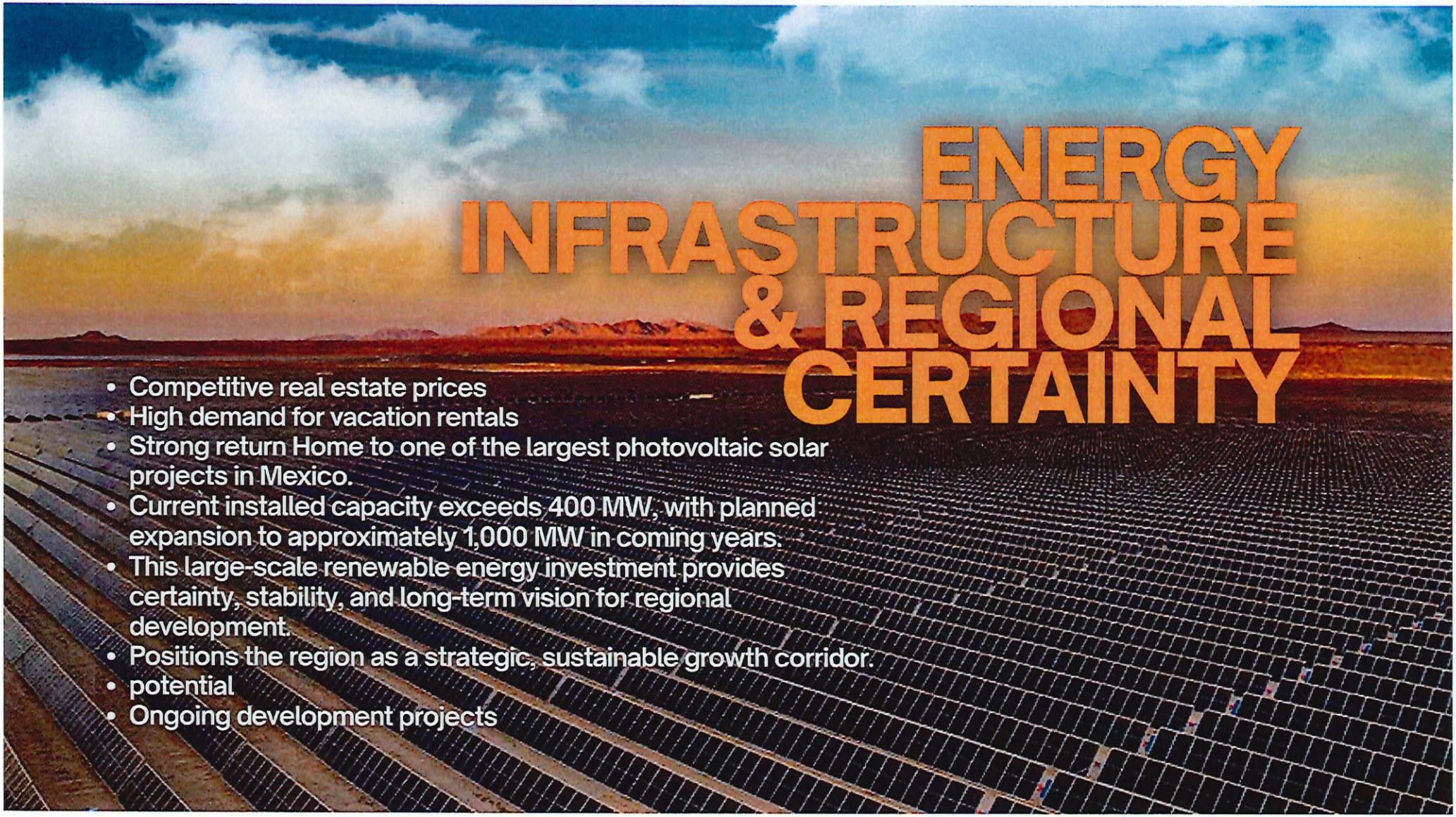
A STRONG BINATIONAL COMMUNITY

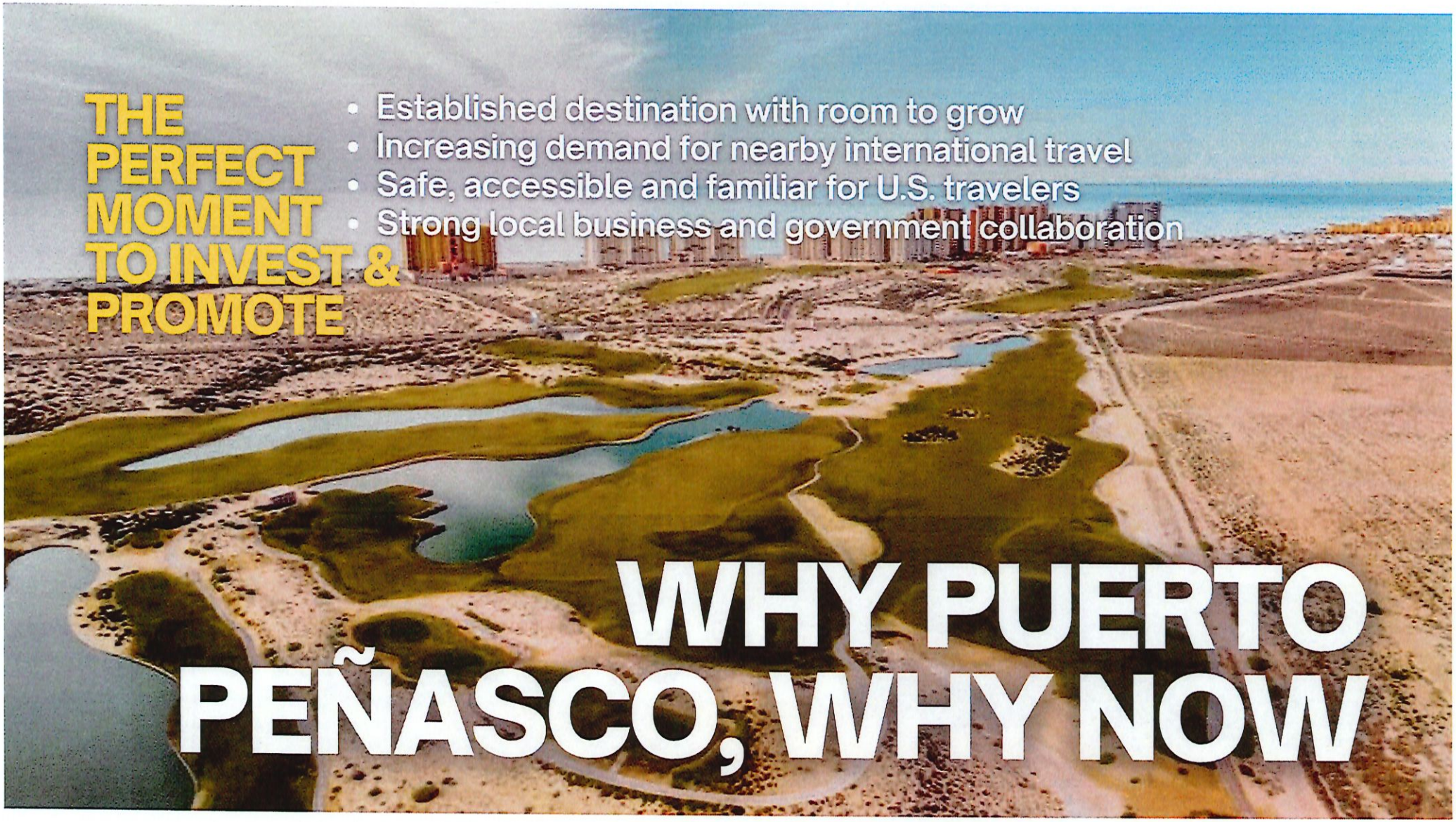




- Puerto Peñasco has a population of approximately 62,000 residents (2020).
- A significant number of U.S. citizens are property owners or seasonal residents, particularly in beachfront communities.
- Strong presence of American retirees, second-home owners, and long-term visitors.
- Reflects deep cross-border lifestyle, real estate, and economic ties.


BEACHES
THAT SELL
THEMSELVES
• Competitive real estate pricing compared to U.S. markets
• Strong demand for vacation rentals and second homes
• Consistent short-term rental performance
• Growing accommodation inventory, projected +10,000 new rooms.


ENERGY
INFRASTRUCTURE
& REGIONAL
CERTAINTY
• Competitive real estate prices
• High demand for vacation rentals
• Strong return Home to one of the largest photovoltaic solar projects in Mexico.
• Current installed capacity exceeds 400 MW, with planned expansion to approximately 1,000 MW in coming years.
• This large-scale renewable energy investment provides certainty, stability, and long-term vision for regional development.
• Positions the region as a strategic, sustainable growth corridor.
• potential
• Ongoing development projects


THE PERFECT MOMENT TO INVEST & PROMOTE
• Established destination with room to grow
• Increasing demand for nearby international travel
• Safe, accessible and familiar for U.S. travelers
• Strong local business and government collaboration
WHY PUERTO PEÑASCO, WHY NOW


LET'S GROW together
VISIT Puerto Peñasco.
INVEST in Puerto Peñasco.
PARTNER with Puerto Peñasco.
PUERTO PEÑASCO
TU MEJOR AMIGO

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

57th Legislature, 2nd Regular Session
Majority Research Staff

HB2746: trade offices study committee
Sponsor: Representative Rivero, LD 27
Committee on International Trade

Overview

Establishes the Study Committee on Trade Offices (Study Committee). Lists the Study Committee's membership and outlines its duties. Repeals the Study Committee on September 30, 2029.

History

The Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) must establish and supervise, at the direction of the ACA Board of Directors, the operation of full-time or part-time offices in other states and foreign countries for the purpose of expanding direct investment and export trade opportunities for businesses and industries in this state, based on objective research, the ACA determines that the effort would be beneficial to the economy of this state (A.R.S. § 41-1504).

The ACA currently operates trade offices located in Canada (Toronto), Mexico (Mexico City and Chihuahua), Israel (Tel Aviv), Europe (Frankfurt, Germany), Taiwan (Taipei), Republic of Korea (Seoul), Japan (Tokyo) and more recently Romania (Bucharest), to provide support for Arizona businesses to increase international trade and cross-border economic and commercial ties.

Provisions

1. Creates the Study Committee, consisting of members from the House of Representatives (House) as follows:
   a. the chairperson of the International Trade Committee, or its successor committee, or the chairperson's designee, who shall serve as the chairperson;
   b. the chairpersons of the Commerce Committee, the Government Committee and the Appropriations Committee, or its successor committees, or the chairpersons' designees; and
   c. two members of the House appointed by the House Speaker. (Sec. 1)
2. Requires the Study Committee to:
   a. meet as the Study Committee deems necessary;
   b. review and oversee all of the trade offices in this state under the authority of the ACA;
   c. examine ways to improve the trade offices in this state;
   d. solicit input and testimony form stakeholders regarding trade offices in this state;
   e. develop findings and recommendations regarding the effectiveness of the trade offices in this state; and

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

Attachment 5

f. submit a report by December 31, 2028, of the Study Committee's findings and recommendations to the House Speaker. (Sec. 1)

3. Excludes the Study Committee members from being eligible to receive compensation. (Sec. 1)

4. Repeals the Study Committee on September 30, 2029. (Sec. 1)

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

ROLL CALL VOTE

COMMITTEE ON International Trade BILL NO. HB 2746

DATE February 11, 2026 MOTION: Held

	PASS	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT
Austin					
Carbone					
Cavero					
Hendrix					
Hernandez C					
Travers					
Weninger					
Wilmeth					
Peña, Vice-Chairman					
Rivero, Chairman					

Chiska Kuhl
COMMITTEE SECRETARY

APPROVED:

Tony Rivero
TONY RIVERO, Chairman
MICHELE PEÑA, Vice-Chairman

ATTACHMENT 6

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

57th Legislature, 2nd Regular Session
Majority Research Staff

HB 2751: Arizona competes fund; repeal
Sponsor: Representative Rivero, LD 27
Committee on International Trade

Overview

Subjects the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) Chief Executive Officer's (Officer) responsibility of using Arizona Competes Fund (Fund) monies to legislative appropriations. Continues the Arizona Competes Program (Program) indefinitely by repealing the Program's termination of July 1, 2026.

History

Laws 2011, 2nd S.S., Chapter 1, established the Arizona Competes Fund (Fund), consisting of withholding tax revenues allocated to the Fund from the job creation withholdings clearing account, any other amounts dedicated to the Fund by law, gifts, grants and other donations received for that purpose and any available monies received from the United States government, including monies from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The Officer must administer the Fund. On notice from the Officer, the State Treasurer must invest and divest any Fund monies in the state treasury and monies earned from investment must be credited to the Fund. Monies in the fund are exempt lapsing. The Officer must use Fund monies exclusively for the purposes of this article (A.R.S. § 41-1545.01).

The Officer may negotiate the award of Fund monies, to be paid by grant for: 1) attracting, expanding or retaining Arizona basic enterprises, that achieve the performance and qualification targets developed and that enter into an agreement with the Officer; and 2) supporting and advancing programs and projects for microenterprises, rural businesses, small businesses and business development that enhance economic development (A.R.S. § 41-1545.02).

The Program terminates on July 1, 2026 (A.R.S. § 41-1542.05).

Provisions

1. Subjects to legislative appropriations the Officer's requirement of using Fund monies exclusively for the prescribed purposes. (Sec. 1)
2. Continues the Program indefinitely by repealing the Program's termination of July 1, 2026. (Sec. 2)
3. Makes the provision relating to the Program retroactive to July 1, 2026. (Sec. 3)

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

Attachment 7

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

ROLL CALL VOTE

COMMITTEE ON International Trade BILL NO. HB 2751

DATE February 11, 2026 MOTION: DP

	PASS	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT
Austin		✓			
Carbone		✓			
Cavero		✓			
Hendrix			✓		
Hernandez C					✓
Travers				✓	
Weninger		✓			
Wilmeth		✓			
Peña, Vice-Chairman		✓			
Rivero, Chairman		✓			
		7	1	1	1

Christie Kuhl
COMMITTEE SECRETARY

APPROVED:

Tony Rivero
TONY RIVERO, Chairman
MICHELE PEÑA, Vice-Chairman

ATTACHMENT 8

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

57th Legislature, 2nd Regular Session
Majority Research Staff

HB 2752: commerce authority; trade offices
Sponsor: Representative Rivero, LD 27
Committee on International Trade

Overview

Transfers the responsibility of establishing and supervising trade offices, from the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) Board of Directors (Board) to legislative appropriation. Mandates that the ACA must submit a report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) on the activities of each trade office operated by the ACA the prior fiscal year by December 1 annually.

History

The ACA's mission is to provide private sector leadership in growing and diversifying the economy of this state, creating high quality employment in this state through expansion, attraction and retention of businesses and marketing this state for the purpose of expansion, attraction and retention of businesses.

The ACA is currently governed by a Board consisting of 29 members, including: 1) the Governor, who serves as chairperson; 2) the Chief Executive Officer (Officer); 3) 17 private sector business leaders; 4) the President of the Senate; and 5) the Speaker of the House of Representatives (A.R.S. § 41-1502).

The Board, on behalf of the ACA, may: 1) adopt and use a corporate seal; 2) sue and be sued; 3) enter into contracts as necessary to carry out prescribed purposes and requirements, including intergovernmental agreements and interagency service agreements; and 4) lease real property and improvements to real property for the purposes of the ACA (A.R.S. § 41-1504).

Provisions

1. Changes the responsibility of establishing and supervising trade offices, from the Board to legislative appropriation, for that specific purpose. (Sec. 1)
2. Requires the ACA, by December 1 annually, to submit a report to JLBC on the activities of each trade office operated by the ACA the prior fiscal year. (Sec. 1)

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

Attachment 9

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

ROLL CALL VOTE

COMMITTEE ON International Trade BILL NO. HB 2752

DATE February 11, 2026 MOTION: DP

	PASS	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT
Austin		✓			
Carbone		✓			
Cavero		✓			
Hendrix		✓			
Hernandez C					✓
Travers		✓			
Weninger		✓			
Wilmeth		✓			
Peña, Vice-Chairman		✓			
Rivero, Chairman		✓			
		9	0	0	1

Christie Kuhl
COMMITTEE SECRETARY

APPROVED:

Tony Rivero
TONY RIVERO, Chairman
MICHELE PEÑA, Vice-Chairman

ATTACHMENT 10

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

57th Legislature, 2nd Regular Session
Majority Research Staff

HB 2753: board of directors; commerce authority
Sponsor: Representative Rivero, LD 27
Committee on International Trade

Overview

Expands the Arizona Commerce Authority's (ACA) Board of Directors (Board) to include the Chairpersons of the Senate Finance Committee and of the House of Representatives International Trade Committee.

History

The mission of the ACA is to provide private sector leadership in growing and diversifying the economy of this state, creating high quality employment in this state through expansion, attraction and retention of businesses and marketing this state for the purpose of expansion, attraction and retention of businesses.

The ACA is currently governed by a Board consisting of 29 members, as follows:

1) the Governor, who serves as chairperson;
2) the Chief Executive Officer;
3) 17 private sector business leaders;
4) the President of the Senate;
5) the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
6) the president of the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR);
7) the president of each state university under the jurisdiction of ABOR;
8) one president of a community college, appointed by a statewide organization of community college presidents;
9) the chairperson of the Governor's council on small business, or its successor;
10) the chairperson of the workforce Arizona council;
11) one member of the rural business development advisory council;
12) the president of a statewide organization of incorporated cities and towns; and
13) the president of a statewide organization of county boards of supervisors (A.R.S. § 41-1502).

Provisions

1. Adds, as ex officio members without the power to vote, to the Board:
   a. the Chairperson of the Senate Finance Committee, or its successor committee, or the Chairperson's designee; and
   b. the Chairperson of the House of Representatives International Trade Committee, or its successor committee, or the Chairperson's designee. (Sec. 1)

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

Attachment 11

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

ROLL CALL VOTE

COMMITTEE ON International Trade BILL NO. HB 2753

DATE February 11, 2026 MOTION: DPA

	PASS	AYE	NAY	PRESENT	ABSENT
Austin		✓			
Carbone		✓			
Cavero		✓			
Hendrix		✓			
Hernandez C					✓
Travers		✓			
Weninger		✓			
Wilmeth		✓			
Peña, Vice-Chairman		✓			
Rivero, Chairman		✓			
		9	0	0	1

Christe Kuhl
COMMITTEE SECRETARY

APPROVED:

Tony Rivero
TONY RIVERO, Chairman
MICHELE PEÑA, Vice-Chairman

ATTACHMENT 12

PROPOSED
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AMENDMENTS TO H.B. 2753
(Reference to printed 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.

The bill as proposed to be amended is reprinted as follows:

Section 1. Section 41-1502, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

41-1502. Arizona commerce authority; board of directors; conduct of office; audit

A. The Arizona commerce authority is established. The mission of the authority is to provide private sector leadership in growing and diversifying the economy of this state, creating high quality employment in this state through expansion, attraction and retention of businesses and marketing this state for the purpose of expansion, attraction and retention of businesses.

B. The authority is governed by a board of directors consisting of:

1. The governor, who serves as chairperson.

2. The chief executive officer.

3. Seventeen private sector business leaders who are chief executive officers of private, for-profit enterprises. None of these members may be an elected official of any government entity. These members must be appointed from geographically diverse areas of this state and not all from the same county. These members shall serve staggered three-year terms of office beginning and ending on the third Monday in January. These members shall be appointed as follows:

(a) Nine members who are appointed by the governor.

(b) Four members who are appointed by the president of the senate.

(c) Four members who are appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

Adopted ✓ # of Verbals ____
Failed ____ Withdrawn ____
Not Offered ____ Analysts Initials ____

Attachment 13

4. The following as ex officio members without the power to vote:
(a) The president of the senate OR THE PRESIDENT'S DESIGNEE.
(b) The speaker of the house of representatives OR THE SPEAKER'S DESIGNEE.
(c) The president of the Arizona board of regents.
(d) THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, OR ITS SUCCESSOR COMMITTEE, OR THE CHAIRPERSON'S DESIGNEE.
(e) THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMITTEE, OR ITS SUCCESSOR COMMITTEE, OR THE CHAIRPERSON'S DESIGNEE.
[(F) THE RANKING MINORITY PARTY MEMBER ON THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, OR ITS SUCCESSOR COMMITTEE, OR THE RANKING MEMBER'S DESIGNEE.
(G) THE RANKING MINORITY PARTY MEMBER ON THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMITTEE, OR ITS SUCCESSOR COMMITTEE, OR THE RANKING MEMBER'S DESIGNEE.]
~~(d)~~ [~~(f)~~] [H] The president of each state university under the jurisdiction of the Arizona board of regents.
~~(e)~~ [~~(g)~~] [I] One president of a community college who is appointed by a statewide organization of community college presidents.
~~(f)~~ [~~(h)~~] [J] The chairperson of the governor's council on small business, or its successor.
~~(g)~~ [~~(i)~~] [K] The chairperson of the workforce Arizona council established by executive order pursuant to section 41-5401.
~~(h)~~ [~~(j)~~] [L] One member of the rural business development advisory council established by section 41-1505 who is appointed by the governor.
~~(i)~~ [~~(k)~~] [M] The president of a statewide organization of incorporated cities and towns who is appointed by the governor.
~~(j)~~ [~~(l)~~] [N] The president of a statewide organization of county boards of supervisors who is appointed by the governor.
C. For members who are appointed by the governor pursuant to subsection B of this section, before appointment by the governor, a prospective member of the board of directors shall submit a full set of fingerprints to the governor for the purpose of obtaining a state and federal criminal records check pursuant to section 41-1750 and Public Law 92-544. The department of public safety may exchange this fingerprint data with the federal bureau of investigation.
D. The following shall serve as technical advisors to the board to enhance collaboration among state agencies to meet infrastructure needs and facilitate growth opportunities throughout this state:
1. The director of environmental quality.
2. The state land commissioner.
3. The director of the department of revenue.
4. The director of the office of tourism.
5. The director of the department of transportation.
6. The director of water resources.

7. The director of the department of insurance and financial institutions.

8. The director of the Arizona-Mexico commission in the governor's office.

9. The director of the office of economic opportunity.

10. An attorney who is appointed jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives and who has experience litigating constitutional cases involving article IX, section 7 of the Arizona Constitution.

E. The governor shall appoint a cochairperson of the board of directors from among the voting members. The board may establish an executive committee consisting of the chairperson, the cochairperson, the chief executive officer and additional voting members of the board elected by the board. The chairperson may appoint subcommittees as necessary.

F. The board may request assistance from representatives of other state agencies to maximize economic development opportunities by leveraging their access to strategic assets and planning processes.

G. Board members serve without compensation but are eligible for reimbursement of expenses pursuant to section 41-1504, subsection E, paragraph 1.

H. A majority of the voting members, which must include the chairperson and the chief executive officer, constitute a quorum for the purpose of an official meeting for conducting business. An affirmative vote of a majority of the members present at an official meeting is sufficient for any action to be taken.

I. The board shall keep and maintain a complete and accurate record of all of its proceedings. Public access to the board's records is subject to section 41-1504, subsection M. The public portion of board meetings shall be recorded. These recordings shall be posted on the authority's website within three business days after the meeting and shall remain on the website pursuant to section 38-431.01, subsection K.

J. The board ~~of directors~~, executive committee, subcommittees and advisory councils are subject to title 38, chapter 3, article 3.1, relating to public meetings, except as follows:

1. In addition to section 38-431.03, the board, executive committee and subcommittees may meet in executive session for discussion about potential business development opportunities and strategies that, if made public, could potentially harm the applicant's, the potential applicant's or this state's competitive position.

2. Social and travel events related to the expansion, attraction and retention of businesses are not public meetings if no legal action involving a final vote or decision is taken.

3. Activities and events held in public for the purpose of announcing the expansion, attraction and retention of projects are not public meetings.

K. The board and the officers and employees of the authority are subject to title 38, chapter 3, article 8, relating to conflicts of interest.

L. The board of directors shall adopt written policies, procedures and guidelines for standards of conduct, including a gift policy, for members of the board and for officers and employees of the authority.

M. The compensation of all officers and employees is considered a public record pursuant to title 39, chapter 1.

N. The authority shall operate on the state fiscal year. The board shall cause an annual audit to be conducted on or before October 31 of each of the authority's public funds established by this chapter by an independent certified public accountant. The board shall immediately file a certified copy of the audit with the auditor general. The auditor general may make such further audits and examinations as necessary and may take appropriate action relating to the audit or examination pursuant to chapter 7, article 10.1 of this title. If the auditor general takes no further action within thirty days after the audit is filed, the audit is considered to be sufficient.

O. All state agencies shall cooperate with the authority and make available data pertaining to the functions of the authority as requested by the authority.

P. The authority may not have more than one hundred full-time employees, excluding any full-time employees that are funded with monies other than state monies.

Enroll and engross to conform
Amend title to conform

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