

Legislative Update

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ARIZONA
LODGING
— & —
TOURISM
ASSOCIATION

AzLTA

The leading statewide public
policy organization
advocating for Arizona's
travel, lodging,
arts/attractions and sports
industry

OUR MISSION

To advance and advocate for Arizona's travel, lodging, arts/attractions, and sports industry.

PILLARS:



Advocacy at the Local,
State & Federal Levels



Education, Training &
Workforce Development



Collaboration

BIG PICTURE

- **Split government**
- **Narrow GOP majorities in House/Senate**
- **Filing deadlines narrow the field**
- **Legislative crossover begins next week**
- **Strike-everything amendments can reshape policy late in session**
- **Over 1800 bills filed**

DEADLINES

- ~~Jan. 12 – Session convenes~~
- ~~Feb. 2 – Last day for bill intro in Senate~~
- ~~Feb. 9 – Last day for bill intro in House~~
- Feb. 20 – Last day for consideration in originating committee
- Mar. 27 – Last day for bill to be considered in opposite chamber
- Apr. 17 – Last day for Conference Committees
- Apr. 25 – Adjournment sine day (100th day of session)
- June 30 – Deadline to adopt a budget

SHORT-TERM RENTAL (STR) LEGISLATION

- **Legislation signed in 2016 to limit regulation on STR's**
- **Several proposals put forward**
 - Allow municipalities to restrict STR's and occupancy (HB2429)
 - Allow a city or town to revoke a STR license (HB2430, HB2567)
 - Expand municipal regulating authority (HB2566, SB1076, SB1261)
 - Authorizes expanded TPT information for STRs (HB2568)
 - Repeals to preemption statutes (SB1084)
 - Prohibition of STR's (SB1105)
 - \$3.50/night fee in Governor's budget
- **None being assigned to Committee**
- **STR-affiliated advocacy groups have been fighting changes**

TOURISM IMPROVEMENT AREAS (TIA)

- **HB2950** scheduled for hearing in Rural Economic Development this Thursday
- **Bipartisan cosponsor support**
- **Arizona destinations are losing ground due to limited dedicated tourism promotion resources**
- **Broad coalition support (non-exhaustive):**
 - **Hoteliers**
 - **DMOs**
 - **Chambers of Commerce**
 - **City/town economic development teams**
 - **Tourism-related businesses and associations**

TIA – HOW IT WORKS

- **Enabling legislation only: a TIA can be considered after a petition meets the 2/3 room threshold**
- **Lodging businesses lead the proposal, including boundaries and assessment structure**
- **Public process required: city/town or county governing body holds a hearing**
- **Funds are dedicated to tourism promotion, advertising, and related business recruitment**
- **Annual reporting and oversight requirements apply**
- **Annual opportunity to dissolve**
- **Initial term is up to 10 years, with renewal options**

LOCAL INITIATIVE REFORM

- **SB1489 & HCR2051 reform aspects of the local ballot initiative process**
 - Stronger petition circulator disclosure and registration requirements
 - More transparent funding/disclaimer requirements
 - Standardized petition language, formatting, and timelines
- **Ballot measures affect local developments**
- **What it DOESN'T do:**
 - Adjust the number of signatures for a ballot measure
 - Prohibit out-of-state funding
- **Part of the AZ Chamber's "Better in my Backyard" initiative**

OTHER BILLS

- **HB2453** – Additional funds to the Arizona Arts Trust Fund
 - Would provide increased and ongoing resources to the Sedona Arts Center
- **HB2022** – Moves up Arizona’s primary election 2 weeks
- **HB2258** – Add La Paz County to the Tourism Advisory Council
- **HB2237** – Appropriates \$4.5 million to Apache Junction for tourism enhancements
- **HB2279** – Limits the liability of a “commercial river outfitter”
- **SB1160** – Prohibits operating a drone near a “ticketed entertainment event” without permission
- Several proposals affecting right to work and minimum wage

Questions?