



Arizona
Education
Association



2017 AEA LEGISLATIVE REPORT CARD

2017 AEA Legislative Report Card

With more than 20,000 members, the Arizona Education Association is the largest professional organization for public school employees in Arizona. AEA was formed in 1892, when a group of Arizona educators banded together to protest the use of 14-year-old textbooks. Since then, AEA continues to take the lead in promoting support of Arizona's public schools, advocating for quality public education through positive change, and improving the professional lives of teachers and school staff members.

AEA policy positions are driven by the mission and values of our organization: *Keeping the Promise of Quality Public Education* for every child in Arizona. AEA strives to ensure that the teaching profession is held in high esteem by society and that education support professionals are viewed as valuable partners in student achievement. This report card summarizes the voting record of current state senators and representatives on 2017 key House Bills (HB) and Senate Bills (SB) that significantly impacts our students and Arizona's public school employees.



AEA Bills

AEA wrote two pieces of legislation this past session to address the current teacher shortage crisis:

- **HB 2370** – Ensure school employees are paid in a timely manner, especially at the beginning of the school year. Signed into law.
- **SB 1209** – A reduction in the impact of high-stakes testing in teacher evaluations. Vetoed by Governor Ducey.

AEA Opposed Bills

AEA lobbied against passage of these bills because they will harm our students and the teaching profession by making cuts to school funding and lowering professional teaching standards:

- **SB 1042** – Replaces “teacher” with “person” in state statute and lowers the bar for those who are allowed to teach our students in Arizona classrooms.
- **HB 2404 & 2244** – An attack on Arizona citizens’ constitutional right to the ballot initiative process, making the renewal and potential expansion of Prop 301 more heavily dependent on the legislature and governor rather than Arizona voters and educators.
- **SB 1431** – Expands Arizona’s private school voucher program, which has been cited for numerous cases of fraud, waste, and abuse, diverting millions of taxpayer dollars from our public school students to private and religious schools without accountability.
- **SB 1522** – A state budget that does not reflect a significant investment education, nor provide a permanent salary increase for teachers.
- **HB 2545** – An education funding model that supports high-stakes testing over learning.
- **SB 1416** – Provides even more tax breaks for wealthy, multinational corporations at the expense of funding for our students and resources for teachers.

Extra Credit

AEA would also like to thank and recognize legislators who helped AEA advance our legislative priorities in the following ways:

- **Access to Members** – Thank you to legislators who attended AEA Lobbying Days at the Capitol and met with AEA members.
- **AEA Priorities** – Thank you to legislators who championed AEA issues, helped AEA behind the scenes, and met with AEA Lobbyist Stephanie Parra regularly.
- **AEA Bill Sponsorship** – Thank you to Representative Doug Coleman and Senator Steve Smith for sponsoring AEA’s bills, HB 2370 and SB 1209.

AEA is committed to finding creative and meaningful ways to address the teacher shortage crisis and keep the promise of quality public education for all Arizona children and youth. Because an educator’s working environment IS a child’s learning environment, we must invest in our public schools so that our children have strong, healthy, and productive spaces to learn and grow. Our future depends on it. Please share this report card with friends, family, and colleagues and start having conversations about making education a priority in Arizona. To stay informed during the legislative session, subscribe to the AEA Legislative Update at arizonaaea.org/legislativeupdate.

How Arizona State Senators Voted

LEGISLATORS	DISTRICT	PARTY	HB2370	SB1209	HB2404	HB2244	SB1042
			AEA BILLS		AEA OPPOSED BILLS		
Sylvia Allen	6	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Nancy Barto	15	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Sonny Borrelli	5	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Sean Bowie	18	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
David Bradley	10	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kate Brophy McGee	28	R	✓	✓	X	✓	X
Judy Burges	22	R	✓	✓	X	X	NV
Olivia Cajero Bedford	3	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	NV
Lupe Contreras	19	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Andrea Dalessandro	2	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Karen Fann	1	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Steve Farley	10	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
David Farnsworth	16	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Gail Griffin	14	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Katie Hobbs	24	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
John Kavanagh	23	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Debbie Lesko	21	R	✓	X	X	X	X
Juan Mendez	26	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Robert Meza	30	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Catherine Miranda	27	D	NV	✓	✓	✓	✓
Steve Montenegro	13	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Lisa Otondo	4	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Jamescita Peshlakai	7	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Warren Petersen	12	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Frank Pratt	8	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Martin Quezada	29	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Steve Smith	11	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Bob Worsley	25	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Steve Yarbrough	17	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Kimberly Yee	20	R	✓	✓	X	X	X

KEY NV = NOT VOTING

SB1522	HB2545	SB1416	SB1431	EXTRA CREDIT			GRADE
AEA OPPOSED BILLS				ACCESS TO MEMBERS	ADVANCEMENT OF AEA PRIORITIES	AEA BILL SPONSOR	
X	X	X	X				F
X	X	X	X				F
X	X	X	X	✓			F
✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓		A
✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓		A+
X	X	X	✓	✓	✓		C
X	X	✓	X				F
✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓		A
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A+
✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓		A+
X	X	X	X		✓		F
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A+
X	X	✓	X				F
X	X	X	X				F
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A+
X	X	NV	X				F
X	X	X	X				F
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A+
✓	✓	X	NV		✓		A
✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓		A
X	X	X	X	✓	✓		F
✓	✓	X	✓		✓		A
✓	✓	X	✓		✓		A+
X	X	✓	X				F
X	X	X	X				F
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A+
X	X	X	X		✓	✓	D
X	X	X	X				F
X	X	X	X				F
X	X	X	X				F

How Arizona State Representatives Voted

LEGISLATORS	DISTRICT	PARTY	HB2370	SB1209	HB2404	HB2244	SB1042
			AEA BILLS		AEA OPPOSED BILLS		
John Allen	15	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Lela Alston	24	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Richard Andrade	29	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Brenda Barton	6	R	NV	✓	X	X	X
Wenona Benally**†	7	D	E	E	✓	E	E
Isela Blanc	26	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reginald Bolding	27	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Russell Bowers	25	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Paul Boyer	20	R	✓	✓	X	X	NV
Kelli Butler	28	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Noel Campbell	1	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Mark Cardenas	19	D	✓	✓	E	✓	✓
Heather Carter	15	R	✓	X	X	X	X
Cesar Chavez	29	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	NV
Ken Clark	24	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Todd Clodfelter	10	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Regina Cobb	5	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Douglas Coleman	16	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
David Cook	8	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Eric Descheenie	7	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kirsten Engel	10	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mitzi Epstein	18	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Diego Espinoza	19	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eddie Farnsworth	12	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Charlene Fernandez	4	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mark Finchem	11	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Randy Friese	9	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rosanna Galbaldon	2	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sally Ann Gonzales	3	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Travis Grantham	12	R	✓	✓	X	X	X

KEY NV = NOT VOTING E = EXCUSED V = VACANT NP = NOT PRESENT **Member was excused for medical illness - incomplete report card

SB1522	HB2545	SB1416	SB1431	EXTRA CREDIT			GRADE
AEA OPPOSED BILLS				ACCESS TO MEMBERS	ADVANCEMENT OF AEA PRIORITIES	AEA BILL SPONSOR	
X	X	X	X				F
✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		A+
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A+
X	X	X	X				F
E	E	E	✓		✓		A
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A+
✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		A+
X	X	X	X				F
X	X	X	X		✓		F
✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		A+
X	X	X	X				F
✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		A+
X	X	X	✓	✓	✓		D
✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓		A
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A+
X	X	X	✓		✓		D
X	X	X	X				F
X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
X	X	X	X				F
✓	✓	NV	✓		✓		A+
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A+
✓	✓	NV	✓	✓	✓		A+
✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		A+
X	X	✓	X				F
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A+
X	X	X	X				F
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A+
✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		A+
✓	✓	NV	NV		✓		A
X	X	✓	X				F

†Missed Votes that were Excused, Vacant or Not Present do not negatively impact the legislator

How Arizona State Representatives Voted

LEGISLATORS	DISTRICT	PARTY	HB2370	SB1209	HB2404	HB2244	SB1042
			AEA BILLS		AEA OPPOSED BILLS		
Daniel Hernandez	2	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Drew John	14	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Anthony Kern	20	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Jay Lawrence	23	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Vince Leach	11	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
David Livingston	22	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Phil Lovas (Resigned 4/17/17) †	22	R	V	✓	X	X	V
Ray Martinez	30	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Javan D. Mesnard	17	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Darin Mitchell	13	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Paul Mosley	5	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Tony Navarrete	30	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jill Norgaard	18	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Becky Nutt	14	R	✓	✓	X	NV	X
Kevin Payne	21	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Pamela Powers Hannley	9	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rebecca Rios	27	D	✓	✓	✓	NV	✓
Tony Rivero	21	R	✓	✓	X	X	NV
Jesus Rubalcava	4	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	NV
Macario Saldate	3	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Athena Salman	26	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Don Shooter	13	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Thomas R. Shope	8	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
David Stringer	1	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Maria Syms	28	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Bob Thorpe	6	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Ben Toma*** †	22	R	NP	✓	NP	NP	X
Kelly Townsend	16	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Michelle Udall	25	R	✓	✓	X	X	X
Michelle Ugenti-Rita	23	R	✓	X	X	X	X
Jeff Weninger	17	R	✓	✓	X	X	X

KEY NV = NOT VOTING E = EXCUSED V = VACANT NP = NOT PRESENT ***Member was not present for the vote, Lovas was still in office

SB1522	HB2545	SB1416	SB1431	EXTRA CREDIT			GRADE
AEA OPPOSED BILLS				ACCESS TO MEMBERS	ADVANCEMENT OF AEA PRIORITIES	AEA BILL SPONSOR	
✓	✓	NV	✓		✓		A+
X	X	X	X		✓		F
X	X	X	X				F
X	X	X	X				F
X	X	X	X				F
X	X	X	X				F
V	V	V	X				F
✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		A+
X	X	X	X				F
X	X	NV	X				F
X	X	NV	X	✓			F
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A+
X	X	X	X		✓		F
NV	NV	X	X				F
X	X	X	X				F
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A+
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A+
X	X	X	X				F
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A+
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A+
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A+
X	X	X	X				F
X	X	X	X				F
X	X	X	X	✓			F
X	X	X	X	✓			F
X	X	X	X				F
X	X	X	NP				F
X	X	X	X				F
X	X	X	✓		✓		D
X	X	X	X				F
X	X	X	X				F

†Missed Votes that were Excused, Vacant or Not Present do not negatively impact the legislator

2017 Legislative and Policy Agenda

Goals

1. Advance sound education policy supporting high standards for teaching and learning and ensuring access to a high-quality education for all Arizona students. Commit to the recruitment and retention of highly-effective educators for all classrooms.
2. Promote the necessary and appropriate funding for public education investing in Arizona's children and its future.
3. Promote fairness and respect for public education and all public education employees.
4. Maintain a fair and secure retirement system for current, retired and future school employees.

Quality Teaching and Learning

AEA advocates for policies that:

- Promote a statewide systemic approach to quality teaching and learning including highly-effective teacher preparation programs and certification, professional development, mentoring and induction, career development pathways, evaluation, and compensation structures.
- Promote equity and excellence for all students by providing flexibility in the Structured English Immersion (SEI) models for English Language Learners (ELL), including replacement of the SEI four-hour model with a research-based language development curriculum. Provide funding to meet the needs of all ELL students and content providers.
- Remove high-stakes consequences tied to mandated assessment data, including LEA, school, and individual ratings of effectiveness (i.e., A-F accountability system); evaluations, compensation structures and personnel decisions.
- Support legislation confirming instruction as the primary duty of teachers.

Public Education Funding

AEA advocates for policies that:

- Prevent the Arizona Legislature and Governor from diverting revenue away from public schools through tax cuts, tax credits and vouchers (i.e., empowerment scholarship accounts and student tuition organizations).
- Provide immediate and significant public education funding (FY2018) focused on the needs of our public schools in Arizona as follows:
 - a. Sustain a workforce of qualified teachers with competitive compensation and support.
 - b. Provide critical tools for classrooms with supplies and updated textbooks and technology.
 - c. Fund school building maintenance and repair to give students safer, clean and functional places to learn.
- Identify mid-term and long-term funding resources for Arizona public schools.
- Invest in school readiness via early childhood and K-3 educational programs, including state-funded full day kindergarten.
- Provide career and technical education funding to assist students in preparing to enter the workforce.
- Amend payroll statutes so that school districts can only withhold five days of labor, just like any other employer in the state.

Fair Employment Rights

AEA advocates for policies that:

- Restore teacher employment rights relating to contract dates, RIF process, salaries, nonrenewal notices and association work.
- Establish due-process rights for education support professionals (classified employees).
- Provide for fair and meaningful evaluation systems, with educator input, which support educator professional development, professional growth, and quality teaching, as well as include a clear appeal process.

Retirement System

AEA advocates for policies that:

- Sustain a Defined Benefit plan for public employees.

The 2017 AEA Legislative and Policy Agenda is approved by the AEA Board of Directors. It is based on the public policy statements included in the AEA Legislative Platform adopted by the 2016 AEA Delegate Assembly.

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aea
keeping
the promise
of quality
public education