



How Arizona Legislators Voted: Bill Summary

2012 Legislative Session

Vote Explanation

“Yes” indicates that the legislator voted in support of the bill. “No” indicates that the legislator voted against the bill. “NV” means the legislator was absent and did not cast a vote on the bill.

HB2264: This bill was introduced because of the legal victory the AEA achieved in our lawsuit relating to the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) contribution rate returning back to an equal 50-50 contribution split between employees and employers. HB2264 also appropriated funding to school districts so that the money taken from school employees must be returned to them by September 30, 2012. [AEA supported HB2264, Second Regular Session. Passed the House on 3/5/12 by a vote of 60-0. Passed the Senate on 4/24/12 by a vote of 28-0. Signed into law by Governor Brewer.]

HB2622: The original intent of this bill was to prohibit a school from displaying a classification or ranking that is no longer current unless the date the classification or ranking was received is prominently shown. The sponsor, Representative Lesko, took the bill to a conference committee during the last days of the legislative session and amended onto the bill a statewide private school voucher expansion program. This voucher program allows any student who meets the following criteria to be given a private school voucher (called the “Arizona Empowerment Scholarship”): any student who attends a school or school district that has been assigned a letter grade of “D” or “F”; those who previously received the “Arizona Scholarship for Pupils with Disabilities”; child or legal ward of a member of the United States Armed Forces who is on active duty; or a child who is a ward of the juvenile court who has achieved permanency through adoption or permanent guardianship or who is residing with prospective permanent placement. [AEA opposed HB2622, Second Regular Session. Passed the House on 4/30/12 by a vote of 39-19. Passed the Senate on 4/30/12 by a vote of 24-6. Signed into law by Governor Brewer.]

HB2626: The original version of the private school expansion bill (see HB2622 above). This bill included gifted students in the private school voucher eligibility. Governor Brewer vetoed this bill on April 4, 2012. [AEA opposed HB2626, Second Regular Session. Passed the House on 3/29/12 by a vote of 39-15. Passed the Senate on 3/26/12 by a vote of 20-8. Vetoed by Governor Brewer.]

SB1047: This bill effectively doubles the amount of tax credits that can be claimed for private school tuition through donations to a school tuition organization (STO). It creates a new income tax credit of up to \$500 for individuals or \$1,000 for married couples filing jointly for contributions to STOs. This new tax credit is allowed only if the filer already has claimed the maximum credit allowed under the existing STO tax credit program for individuals (which also is \$500 per single filer and \$1,000 per married couple filing jointly). Per the JLBC fiscal note, “Individuals received \$43.2 million in tax credits for STO contributions made during 2010. This level of STO-related tax credits for individuals under current law could increase under this bill because it would double the maximum allowable tax credit that individuals could receive for STO contributions.” [AEA opposed SB1047, Second Regular Session. Passed the Senate on 2/23/12 by a vote of 20-9. Passed the House on 2/16/12 by a vote of 37-19. Signed into law by Governor Brewer.]

HB2103: An attempt to silence labor unions, this bill required all unions/associations to annually reauthorize membership in order to collect dues via payroll deduction. It imposed a minimum \$10,000 fine on the employer for any violation (per occurrence) which effectively forces employers not to offer this option to employees for fear of the monetary liability. [AEA opposed HB2103, Second Regular Session. Passed the Senate on 3/26/12 by a vote of 19-10. The bill died because it was never brought up to a final read vote in the House.]

SB1484: The original version of HB2103 (see above). [AEA opposed SB1484, Second Regular Session. Passed the Senate on 2/16/12 by a vote of 19-11. The bill died because it was never heard in a House committee.]

SB1203: Required teachers to get prior approval from the district governing board for all supplemental books or instructional computer software prior to usage. [AEA opposed SB1203, Second Regular Session. Failed in the Senate on 2/28/12 by a vote of 13-17. The bill was never considered in the House.]

SB1204: This bill permitted parents in schools labeled “D” or “F” to submit a petition to a school district governing board that required the board to do one of the following actions: close the school; convert the school into a charter school; or replace the principal and staff at the school. This bill also expanded the state’s private school voucher program. [AEA opposed SB1204, Second Regular Session. Passed the Senate on 2/27/12 by a vote of 16-14. The bill died because it was never heard in a House committee.]

SB1205: Put an unnecessary and duplicative mandate on school districts to regulate a teacher or school employees’ speech in a classroom so that any language that violated the standards of the FCC concerning obscenity, indecency and profanity would lead to discipline and dismissal of the educator. [AEA opposed SB1205, Second Regular Session. Failed in the Senate on 2/28/12 by a vote of 14-16. The bill was never considered in the House.]

HCR2043: This ballot referral would have required any ballot initiative, referendum or constitutional amendment providing for an increase in taxes or taxing authority to receive a 60% voter approval in order to be enacted. This would have required all school district bonds and overrides to reach a 60% voter approval threshold in order to pass. [AEA opposed HCR2043, Second Regular Session. Passed the House on 3/5/12 by a vote of 32-26. The ballot referral died because this version was never heard in a Senate committee.]