



Arizona
Education
Association

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2017-2018 AEA LEGISLATIVE REPORT CARD

2017-2018 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 2018 key House Bills (HB) and Senate Bills (SB) that significantly impacts our students and Arizona's public school employees.



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.

2018 Legislative Session

AEA Supported Bills

- **SB1255** – Allows teachers who are rated highly effective for 3+ consecutive years to go on an alternative cycle for evaluations
- **SB1390** – Prop 301 extension
- **SB1497** – A reduction in the impact of high-stakes testing in teacher evaluations *Only 3rd Read in the Senate*
- **SB1521** – Amendment – Class size cap at 25 students; Student to counselor ratio cap at 250:1
- **HB2435** – Dismantles 4 hour structured English immersion block for EL students to be replaced with research-based models of instruction *Only 3rd Read in the House*

AEA Opposed Bills

- **SCR1034** – Restructures Arizona's Independent Redistricting Commission and waters down representative for minority, rural communities
- **SB1467** – STO expansion *Only 3rd Read in the Senate*
- **HB2479** – Tax exemption on digital goods and services *Only 3rd Read in the House*
- **HB2528** – Tax cut for Arizona millionaires *Only 3rd Read in the House*
- **HB2663** – A state budget that does not meet the demands of Arizona educators

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, met with AEA members, and supported the #REDforED movement.
- **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 the following legislators who sponsored AEA's bills this session:

Rep. Isela Blanc , HB2358: Charter school board members, conflicts	Sen. Steve Smith , SB1497: Teachers; principals; evaluation instrument
Sen. David Bradley , SB1309: Charter schools; accounting; procurement; audits	Rep. Randy Friese , HB2142: Charter schools; closure; property transfer
Rep. Paul Boyer , HB2435: English language learners; instruction; budgeting	Sen. Martín Quezada , SB1303: Charter school omnibus

*NOTE: Due to opposition from the Majority Leadership, the charter school accountability bills did not receive a hearing.

How Arizona State Senators Voted

LEGISLATORS	DISTRICT	PARTY	SB1255	SB1390	SB1497	SB1521	HB2435
			AMENDMENT AEA SUPPORTED BILLS				
Sylvia Allen	6	R	✓	✓	✓	✗	
Nancy Barto	15	R	✓	✓	✓	✗	
Sonny Borrelli	5	R	✓	✓	✓	✗	
Sean Bowie	18	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	
David Bradley	10	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Kate Brophy McGee	28	R	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Judy Burges	22	R	✓	✗	✓	✗	
Olivia Cajero Bedford	3	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Lupe Contreras	19	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Andrea Dalessandro	2	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Karen Fann	1	R	✓	✓	✓	✗	
Steve Farley	9	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	
David Farnsworth	16	R	✓	✗	✓	NV	
Rick Gray	21	R	✓	✓	✓	✗	
Gail Griffin	14	R	✓	✓	✓	✗	
Katie Hobbs	24	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	
John Kavanagh	23	R	✓	✓	✓	✗	
Sine Kerr	13	R	✓	✓	✓	✗	
Juan Mendez	26	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Robert Meza	30	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Catherine Miranda	27	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Lisa Otondo	4	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Jamescita Peshlakai	7	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Warren Petersen	12	R	✓	✗	✓	✗	
Frank Pratt	8	R	✓	✓	✓	✗	
Martín Quezada	29	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Steve Smith	11	R	✓	✗	✓	✗	
Bob Worsley	25	R	✓	✓	✓	✗	
Steve Yarbrough	17	R	✓	✓	✓	✗	
Kimberly Yee	20	R	✓	✓	✓	✗	

KEY NV = NOT VOTING ✓ = VOTED WITH AEA ✗ = VOTED AGAINST AEA

in the 2018 Legislative Session

SCR1034	SB1467	HB2479	HB2528	HB2663	EXTRA CREDIT			GRADE
AEA OPPOSED BILLS					ACCESS TO MEMBERS	ADVANCEMENT OF AEA PRIORITIES	AEA BILL SPONSOR	
✗	✗			✗				F
✗	✗			✗				F
✗	✗			✗				F
✓	✓			✗	★			C+
NV	✓			✗	★	★	★	B+
✓	✓			✗				C
✗	✗			✗				F
✓	✓			✓				A
✓	✓			✓				A
✓	✓			✗	★	★		B
✗	✗			✗				F
✓	✓			✗	★			C+
NV	✗			NV				F
✗	✗			✗				F
✓	✗			✗				F
✓	✓			✓	★			A+
✗	✗			✗				F
✗	✗			✗				F
✓	✓			✓	★	★		A+
✓	✓			✓				A+
✓	✓			✓	★			A+
✓	✓			✓	★			A+
✓	✓			✓	★			A
✗	✗			✗				F
✗	✗			✗				F
✓	✓			✓	★	★	★	A+
✗	✗			✗			★	F
✓	✗			✗				F
✗	✗			✗				F
✗	✗			✗				F

How Arizona State Representatives Voted

LEGISLATORS	DISTRICT	PARTY	SB1255	SB1390	SB1497	SB1521	HB2435
			AMENDMENT AEA SUPPORTED BILLS				
John Allen	15	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Lela Alston	24	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Richard Andrade	29	D	NV	✓		✓	✓
Brenda Barton	6	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Wenona Benally	7	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Isela Blanc	26	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Reginald Bolding	27	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Russell Bowers	25	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Paul Boyer	20	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Kelli Butler	28	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Noel Campbell	1	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Mark Cardenas	19	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Heather Carter	15	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Cesar Chavez	29	D	NV	✓		✓	✓
Ken Clark	24	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Todd Clodfelter	10	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Regina Cobb	5	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Douglas Coleman	16	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
David Cook	8	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Eric Descheenie	7	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Timothy Dunn	13	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Kirsten Engel	10	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Mitzi Epstein	18	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Diego Espinoza	19	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Eddie Farnsworth	12	R	✓	✗		✗	✓
Charlene Fernandez	4	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Mark Finchem	11	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Randy Friese	9	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Rosanna Gabaldon	2	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Sally Ann Gonzales	3	D	✓	✓		✓	✓

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in the 2018 Legislative Session

SCR1034	SB1467	HB2479	HB2528	HB2663	EXTRA CREDIT			GRADE
AEA OPPOSED BILLS					ACCESS TO MEMBERS	ADVANCEMENT OF AEA PRIORITIES	AEA BILL SPONSOR	
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✓		✓	✓	✓	★	★		A+
✓		✓	✓	✓	★			A+
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✓		✓	✓	✓	★	★		A+
✓		✓	✓	✓	★	★	★	A+
✓		NV	✓	✓	★	★		A+
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✗		✗	✗	✗		★	★	F
✓		✓	✓	✓	★	★		A+
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✓		✗	✓	✓	★			A
NV		✗	✗	✗	★	★		F
✓		✗	✓	✓	★			A
✓		✓	✓	✓	★			A+
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✗		✓	✗	✗	★	★		F
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✓		✓	✓	✓				A+
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✓		✓	✓	✓	★			A+
✓		✓	✓	✓	★	★		A+
✓		✓	✓	✓				A+
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✓		✓	✓	✓	★	★		A+
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✓		✓	✓	✓	★	★	★	A+
✓		NV	✓	✓	★			A+
✓		✓	✓	✓				A+

How Arizona State Representatives Voted

LEGISLATORS	DISTRICT	PARTY	SB1255	SB1390	SB1497	SB1521	HB2435
			AMENDMENT AEA SUPPORTED BILLS				
Travis Grantham	12	R	✓	✗		✗	✓
Daniel Hernandez	2	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Drew John	14	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Anthony Kern	20	R	✓	✗		✗	✓
Jay Lawrence	23	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Vince Leach	11	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
David Livingston	22	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Ray Martinez	30	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Javan D. Mesnard	17	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Darin Mitchell	13	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Paul Mosley	5	R	✓	✗		✗	✓
Tony Navarrete	30	D	NV	NV		✓	NV
Jill Norgaard	18	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Becky Nutt	14	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Kevin Payne	21	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Gerae Peten	4	D	✓	✓		✓	✗
Pamela Powers Hannley	9	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Rebecca Rios	27	D	✓	✓		✓	NV
Tony Rivero	21	R	✓	✓		NV	✓
Macario Saldade	3	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Athena Salman	26	D	✓	✓		✓	✓
Thomas R. Shope	8	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
David Stringer	1	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Maria Syms	28	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Bob Thorpe	6	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Ben Toma	22	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Kelly Townsend	16	R	✓	✗		✗	✓
Michelle Udall	25	R	✓	✓		✗	✓
Michelle Ugenti-Rita	23	R	✓	✗		✗	NV
Jeff Weninger	17	R	✓	✓		✗	✓

KEY NV = NOT VOTING ✓ = VOTED WITH AEA ✗ = VOTED AGAINST AEA

in the 2018 Legislative Session

SCR1034	SB1467	HB2479	HB2528	HB2663	EXTRA CREDIT			GRADE
AEA OPPOSED BILLS					ACCESS TO MEMBERS	ADVANCEMENT OF AEA PRIORITIES	AEA BILL SPONSOR	
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✓		✗	✓	✓				B+
✗		✗	✗	✗	★	★		F
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✓		✗	✓	✓				B+
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
NV		✗	✗	✗				F
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✓		✓	✓	✓	★			A+
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✓		✓	✓	✓				B+
✓		✓	✓	✓				A+
✓		✓	✓	✓	★	★		A+
NV		✗	✗	NV				D
✓		✗	✓	✓				B+
✓		✓	✓	✓	★	★		A+
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✗		✗	✗	✗	★	★		F
✗		✗	✗	✗				F
✗		✗	✗	✗				F



Legislative Report Cards 2017-18

The following letter grades represent the comprehensive scores for each legislator during the 2017 and 2018 legislative sessions. The letter grades represent the legislators voting records for both sessions and whether or not they supported an AEA pro-public education agenda.

Money is influence in politics.

Decisions continue to be made that chip away at our public schools, drive good educators out of a career they love, and experiment on our students' learning.

If you want to influence the decisions that are being made and support pro-public education candidates contribute to the AEA Fund – *Join the PAC!*



Arizona State Senators

LEGISLATORS	DISTRICT	PARTY	GRADE
Sylvia Allen	6	R	F
Nancy Barto	15	R	F
Sonny Borrelli	5	R	F
Sean Bowie	18	D	B+
David Bradley	10	D	A
Kate Brophy McGee	28	R	C
Judy Burges	22	R	F
Olivia Cajero Bedford	3	D	A+
Lupe Contreras	19	D	A+
Andrea Dalessandro	2	D	A
Karen Fann	1	R	F
Steve Farley	9	D	A
David Farnsworth	16	R	F
Rick Gray	21	R	F
Gail Griffin	14	R	F
Katie Hobbs	24	D	A+
John Kavanagh	23	R	F
Sine Kerr	13	R	F
Debbie Lesko	21	R	F
Juan Mendez	26	D	A+
Robert Meza	30	D	A
Catherine Miranda	27	D	A+
Steve Montenegro	13	R	F
Lisa Otondo	4	D	A
Jamescita Peshlakai	7	D	A+
Warren Petersen	12	R	F
Frank Pratt	8	R	F
Martín Quezada	29	D	A+
Steve Smith	11	R	F
Bob Worsley	25	R	F
Steve Yarbrough	17	R	F
Kimberly Yee	20	R	F

(Resigned 01/08/18)

(Resigned 12/15/17)

Arizona State Representatives

LEGISLATORS	DISTRICT	PARTY	GRADE
John Allen	15	R	F
Lela Alston	24	D	A+
Richard Andrade	29	D	A+
Brenda Barton	6	R	F
Wenona Benally	7	D	A+
Isela Blanc	26	D	A+
Reginald Bolding	27	D	A+
Russell Bowers	25	R	F
Paul Boyer	20	R	F
Kelli Butler	28	D	A+
Noel Campbell	1	R	F
Mark Cardenas	19	D	A+
Heather Carter	15	R	F
Cesar Chavez	29	D	A
Ken Clark	24	D	A+
Todd Clodfelter	10	R	F
Regina Cobb	5	R	F
Douglas Coleman	16	R	D+
David Cook	8	R	F
Eric Descheenie	7	D	A+
Timothy Dunn	13	R	F
Kirsten Engel	10	D	A+
Mitzi Epstein	18	D	A+
Diego Espinoza	19	D	A+
Eddie Farnsworth	12	R	F
Charlene Fernandez	4	D	A+
Mark Finchem	11	R	F
Randy Friese	9	D	A+
Rosanna Gabaldon	2	D	A+
Sally Ann Gonzales	3	D	A+
Travis Grantham	12	R	F
Daniel Hernandez	2	D	A+

Arizona State Representatives

LEGISLATORS	DISTRICT	PARTY	GRADE
Drew John	14	R	F
Anthony Kern	20	R	F
Jay Lawrence	23	R	F
Vince Leach	11	R	F
David Livingston	22	R	F
Phil Lovas	22	R	F
Ray Martinez	30	D	A+
Javan D. Mesnard	17	R	F
Darin Mitchell	13	R	F
Paul Mosley	5	R	F
Tony Navarrete	30	D	A+
Jill Norgaard	18	R	F
Becky Nutt	14	R	F
Kevin Payne	21	R	F
Gerae Peten	4	D	B+
Pamela Powers Hannley	9	D	A+
Rebecca Rios	27	D	A+
Tony Rivero	21	R	F
Jesus Rubalcava	4	D	A+
Macario Saldade	3	D	A+
Athena Salman	26	D	A+
Don Shooter	13	R	F
Thomas R. Shope	8	R	F
David Stringer	1	R	F
Maria Syms	28	R	F
Bob Thorpe	6	R	F
Ben Toma	22	R	F
Kelly Townsend	16	R	F
Michelle Udall	25	R	F
Michelle Ugenti-Rita	23	R	F
Jeff Weninger	17	R	F

(Resigned 4/17/17)

(Resigned 7/28/17)

(Expelled 2/1/18 by HR2003)

2018 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 professionally certified, highly-effective educators for all classrooms.
2. Restore necessary funding for public education and fully invest in the future of Arizona's children.
3. Advocate for fairness and respect of public education and all public education employees.
4. Protect and strengthen 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; 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 educators.
- Remove high-stakes consequences tied to mandated assessment data, including: Local Education Agency (LEA), school, and individual ratings of effectiveness (i.e., A-F accountability system and results-based funding); evaluations; compensation structures; and personnel decisions.
- Support legislation affirming instruction as the primary duty of teachers.
- Recognize teachers as professionals and ensure them the autonomy to deliver a flexible curriculum and make classroom-based decisions to meet the needs of their students.

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 (FY2019) focused on equity and closing the opportunity gap for all students to meet the needs of our public schools in Arizona as follows:
 - a. Attract and retain a workforce of professionally certified teachers with competitive compensation and support.
 - b. Provide critical resources for classrooms such as support services, supplies, updated textbooks, and technology.
 - c. Fund school building maintenance and repairs to give students safe, clean and functional places to learn.
- Identify mid-term and long-term funding sources and revenue streams for Arizona public schools.
- Invest in school readiness via early childhood and Pre-Kindergarten through Third Grade educational programs, including state-funded full day kindergarten.
- Provide career and technical education funding to assist students in preparing to enter the workforce.

Fair Employment Rights

AEA advocates for policies that:

- Strengthen teacher employment rights relating to contract dates, Reduction In Force (RIF) process, salaries, nonrenewal notices and association work.
- Establish due process rights for education support professionals (classified employees).
- Provide for fair and relevant evaluation systems that:
 - a. include educator input and a clear appeal process;
 - b. support professional development and growth;
 - c. promote quality teaching and learning; and
 - d. use various data points that reflect the course of instruction.

Retirement System

AEA advocates for policies that:

- Sustain and protect a Defined Benefit plan for public employees.

AEA Executive Team

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*keeping
the promise
of quality
public education*