

# February 2022 State Policy Update

This month, AIPI tracked the following state of Arizona legislature affecting Tribes and Tribal members for the month of February. This list includes legislation that was newly introduced or had other activity between January 24, 2022 and February 18, 2022.

Bills Considered by the State of Arizona 55th Legislature, Second Session:

1. **[SB1434](#) - “Establishing the Arizona Climate Resiliency Planning Group.” Sponsored by Sen. Juan Mendez (D-26).**
  - This bill would establish the Arizona climate resiliency planning group
  - The group would include persons who represent interest areas including Native American Tribes.
  - The speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the Senate, the minority party leader of the house of representatives, and the minority party leader of the senate shall each appoint five persons from among the areas of representation, including Native American Tribes. The governor shall appoint two persons from among the areas of representation, including Native American Tribes.
  - The group shall:
    - Compile a complete inventory of this state's greenhouse gas emissions and sources.
    - Review and, where necessary, revise the recommendations made in the Arizona climate change advisory group's 2006 climate change action plan.
    - Develop a resiliency plan to protect or improve the resiliency of this state's human populations and natural and economic systems against the risks of climate change.
    - Identify measures that can be taken to meet greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets.
  - Second reading in the Senate on January 27, 2022.
  
2. **[SB1470](#) - “Code Writers Initiative Program; Appropriation.” Sponsored by Sen. Thomas Shope (R-8).**
  - This bill would amend Title 15, Chapter 2, Article 2, Arizona Revised Statutes, by adding Section 15-249.17. The Native American Code Writers Program (NACWP) introduces a computer code writing curriculum and delivers a technology-focused education to better engage Native American high school students. Section 15-249.17 adds information on the NACWP establishment and grantee duties.
  - Second reading in the Senate on January 31, 2022.
  
3. **[SB1557](#) - “Establishing the Tribal and Rural Public Program Access Study Committee.” Sponsored by Sen. Theresa Hatathlie (D-7).**
  - This bill would Establish the Tribal and Rural Public Program Access Study Committee.

- The Tribal and rural public program access study committee would consist of seven members, all of whom must reside in a county with a population of less than two hundred thousand persons and four of whom must be members of different Indian tribes.
  - The committee shall address issues relating to Tribal and rural resident access to public programs.
  - Second reading in the Senate on February 1, 2022.
4. **[SB1658](#) - “Indian Child Welfare; Custody Proceedings.” Sponsored by Sen. Sally Gonzales (D-3).**
- This bill would amend Title 8, Arizona Revised Statutes, by adding Chapter 6; Relating to Child Custody. Additional information in chapter 6 includes definitions, proceedings and jurisdictions, parental rights, placement, custody, Tribal affiliation, and improper and/or emergency removal or placement.
  - Second reading in the Senate on February 1, 2022.
5. **[SB1674](#) - “Indian Tribes; Gaming; Event Wagering.” Sponsored by Sen. Sally Gonzales (D-3).**
- This bill would amend Sections 5-1304 and 5-1305, Arizona Revised Statutes; Relating To Amusements And Sports.
  - Amendments include information on wagering operating licenses, as well as mobile and in-facility event wagering.
  - Second reading in the Senate on February 3, 2022.
6. **[SB1693](#) - “Holiday; Indigenous Peoples' Day.” Sponsored by Sen. Sally Gonzales (D-3).**
- This bill would amend Section 1-301, Arizona Revised Statutes; Relating To Holidays by changing the Second Monday in October, from “Columbus Day” to “Indigenous Peoples' Day.”
  - Second reading in the Senate on February 3, 2022.
7. **[HB2771](#) - “Election Procedures; Registrations; Campaign Finance.” Sponsored by Rep. Athena Salman (D-26).**
- This bill would amend multiple sections of Title 16, Chapter 1, Article 1.1, Arizona Revised Statutes to include an opportunity for comment from tribes regarding polling places and voting center locations, and states that any source agency shall accept tribal identification numbers and nontraditional residential addresses, including addresses that can be identified by mile markers or geographic or other identifying features.
  - No action history was available at the time of this publication.
8. **[HB2715](#) - “TPT; Native American Tribes; Revenues.” Sponsored by Rep. Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren (D-7).**
- This bill would Amend Sections 42-5029 and 42-5031.01, Arizona Revised Statutes to include monthly deposits of twenty-five percent of the

qualifying transaction privilege tax revenues to the Tribal nations economic development, public safety, and infrastructure fund.

- Second reading in the House on February 9, 2022.

9. **[HB2716](#), “Tribal Economic Development; Study Committee.” Sponsored by Rep. Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren (D-7).**

- This bill would establish the Tribal Economic Development; Study Committee.
- Appointed members would include a representative of a federally recognized Indian tribe with a population of more than one hundred thousand persons and a representative of a nonprofit organization that focuses on tribal economic development and commerce.
- Second reading in the House on February 9, 2022.

10. **[SB1300](#) - “Tribal College Dual Enrollment Program.” Sponsored by Sen. Thomas Shope (R-8).**

- This bill would amend Section 15-244.01, Arizona Revised Statutes; Relating To The Department Of Education to add provisions allowing that the tribal college dual enrollment program may offer courses relating to tribal language, government, and culture through intergovernmental agreements with high schools that are located outside of a reservation to student members of a tribe living off of the reservation and to other students.
- Transmitted to House on February 10, 2022.

11. **[HB2830](#) - “G&F; Fees; Exemption; Tribal Members.” Sponsored by Rep. Myron Tsosie (D-7).**

- This bill would amend section 17-333, Arizona Revised Statutes; Relating to the Taking and Handling of Wildlife to allow a person who is an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe located wholly or partially in this state is exempt from the fees for licenses, permits, tags and stamps and application fees prescribed in the Bill.
- Second reading in the House on February 10, 2022.

12. **[SB1064](#) - “Hualapai Tribe Special Plates.” Sponsored by Sen. Sonny Borrelli (R-5).**

- This bill would amend sections in Title 28, Chapter 7, Article 12, Arizona Revised Statutes to include that the department shall issue Hualapai Tribe special plates if, by December 31, 2022, a person pays \$32,000 to the appropriate department.
- Amendments also include new fee information.
- Passed Senate TAT Committee on February 14, 2022.

13. **[SB1194](#) - “Indian Nations; Tribes; Legislative Day.” Sponsored by Sen. Theresa Hatathlie (D-7).**

- This bill would amend Section 41-2053, Arizona Revised Statutes; Relating To Indian Nations And Tribes Legislative Day to include “Legislative Indigenous Peoples Caucus.”

- Passed Senate GOV on February 14, 2022.
14. [HB2735](#) - **“Sexual Assault Study Committee.” Sponsored by Rep. Melody Hernandez (D-26).**
- This bill would establish the Sexual Assault Study Committee.
  - Members would include a peace officer who is employed by a Tribal police department.
  - The committee would study current policies and practices of local, state, and Tribal law enforcement agencies and county attorneys that relate to investigating and prosecuting sexual assault-related crimes, including whether the entity has adequate financial and staffing resources for investigating and prosecuting sexual assault crimes and data related to sexual assault clearance rates, prosecution referrals, and dispositions.
  - Passed House JUD on February 16, 2022.
15. [SB1497](#) - **“Establishing the Arizona America250 Commission.” Sponsored by Sen. Vince Leach (R-11).**
- This bill would establish The Arizona America250 commission to plan, develop, encourage and coordinate the commemoration of the two hundred fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the United States and the impact of the citizens of this state on the nation's past, present, and future. One member of this Commission must represent an Arizona Tribe.
  - Passed Senate COW on February 17, 2022.
16. [SB1710](#) - **“Sports; Tourism; Film Authority; Appropriation.” Sponsored by Sen. David Gowan (R-14).**
- This bill would establish the Southern Arizona Sports, Tourism, and Film Authority. The authority would consist of the counties of Greenlee, Graham, Cochise, Santa Cruz, Pima, and Pinal. The authority would act as a corporate and political body to promote tourism and develop youth and professional sports.
  - Passed the Senate and transmitted to the House on February 17, 2022.