



AZPHA  
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2023 Legislative  
Session:

*The Good, the Bad,  
the Close Calls, &  
the Missed  
Opportunities*

Session Wrap Update  
June 15, 2023

Will Humble

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# The Good

# Good Budget Items

- Housing Trust Fund Gets Big Cash Infusion (\$150M)
- Kids Care Extended to 225% of FPL
- Psilocybin (Magic Mushroom) Research Council



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# Good Budget Items

## ADHS Line Items

- Arizona State Hospital (ASH) Contracted Services \$1,100,000
- ASH Contracted Services One-time \$6,000,000
- ASH Video Security One Time \$3,500,000
- Alzheimer's Research Ongoing \$500,000
- Dementia Services and Alzheimer's State Plan non-lapsing through FY 2026 \$964,100
- Dementia Awareness GF One-time; non-lapsing \$500,000
- Psilocybin Research GF One-time \$5,000,000
- Collaborative Care Uptake Fund GF Onetime \$1,000,000
- Health Crisis Review and Wraparound Services GF One-time \$5,000,000



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# Good Budget Items

## AHCCCS Line Items

- Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System KidsCare Expansion GF Ongoing; from 200% to 225% of the Federal Poverty Level \$5,000,000
- Critical Access Hospitals GF One-time \$4,200,000
- On-Call OBGYN Services GF One-time; non-lapsing \$7,500,000
- KidsCare Expansion OF Children's Health Insurance Program Fund; ongoing \$16,620,800



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# Good Budget Items

## **ADES Line Items**

- Adult Protective Services Backfill GF One-time \$9,100,000
- Produce Incentive Program GF One-time; non-lapsing; “Double Up Food Bucks” \$5,462,600



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# HB2166 Group Home Licensure

## HB2166 Signed by Governor

- Requires behavioral-supported group homes under contract with the ADES to be licensed for health and safety by the ADHS.



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# HB2168 Good Samaritan Protections

## HB2168 Signed by Governor

- Current statute prohibits charging or prosecuting an individual for use or possession of a controlled substance if the evidence was acquired while seeking medical assistance due to a drug-related overdose.
- An emergency measure extending the repeal date for A.R.S. § 13-3423 to **July 1, 2028** instead of July 1, 2023



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# HB2194 Drug Overdose Fatality Review Teams

- **HB2194 Signed by Governor**
- Reinstates the Drug Overdose Fatality Review Team within the ADHS. That authority had expired.



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# HB2432 AHCCCS Supplemental Appropriation

## HB2432 Signed by Governor in Budget

- Appropriates \$3.3B in AHCCCS expenditure authority for the remainder of this Fiscal Year for formula requirements.



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# HB2753 Graduate Medical Education

## HB2753 Baked into the Final Budget

- Funds the AHECs (\$5M) to establish primary care residency programs at FQHCs & RHCs.



# SB1081 AHCCCS Continuation

## **SB1081 Passed and Signed**

- Extends AHCCCS' existence to July 1, 2029



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# The Bad

# HCR2039 Governor State of Emergency Powers

## HCR2039 Passed House & Senate: On November 2024 Ballot

- If approved by the voters in November 2024 this new law would terminate all Governor-proclaimed states of emergency after 30 days unless the Legislature extends the emergency. Caps each legislative extension at 30 days.
- **Note: Governor Cannot Veto this Referendum**



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# SCR1015 Initiative signatures; legislative districts

## **SCR1015 Passed House & Senate: Will Be on Nov 2024 Ballot**

Under the AZ Constitution, 10% of voters (signatures) are required to propose a ballot measure, 15% a constitutional amendment, & 5% to refer a legislative law to the ballot

If approved by the voters in November 2024 this new constitutional amendment would require a proportionate number of signatures needed to meet the ballot criteria come proportionately from each of Arizona's 30 Legislative Districts.

- **Note: Governor Cannot Veto this Referendum**



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# The Close Calls



# HB2474 School Vaccinations

## HB2474 Vetoed by Governor

- Says EUA immunizations can't be required for school attendance.



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# HB2501 Dependent Tax Credit Increase

## HB2501 Died in the House

- Expands the dependent tax credit to include the months the taxpayer was pregnant.



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# SB1137 Maricopa County Division

- [SB1137](#) **Died in Senate**
- Effective January 1, 2024, Breaks Maricopa County into 4 separate counties: Hohokam, Mogollon and O'odham counties.



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# SB1234 Traffic Photo Enforcement Prohibition

## SB1234 Vetoed by Governor

- Forbids photo enforcement of all vehicle traffic laws.



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# SB1674 Public Money / Ideology Training

## SB1694 Passed Senate 16-12; Died in the House

- Prohibits a public entity from requiring and spending public monies on a diversity, equity and inclusion program and allows an employee who is required to participate in the program to bring action against the public entity.



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# SB1250 Employer Religious Vaccine Exemptions

## SB1250 Vetoed by Governor

- Requires employers to allow employees that complete a religious exemption form to opt out of vaccination requirements for COVID-19, influenza A, influenza B, flu or any EUA vaccine.
- Prohibits employers from discriminating against an employee regarding employment, wages or benefits based on vaccination status and from inquiring into the veracity of an employee's religious beliefs.



# SB1704 Prohibiting Vaccination Mandates

## SB1704 Passed Senate 16-13; Died in House

- Makes it illegal any government entity to deny to a person any local or state services, goods, facilities, advantages, privileges, licensing, educational or employment opportunities or health care access based on the person's vaccination status.
- Employers couldn't discriminate based on the person's vaccination status.
- Public accommodation couldn't exclude, limit, segregate, refuse to serve or otherwise discriminate against a person based on the person's vaccination status.



# The Missed Opportunities



# SB1293 Long Term Care Inspections

## SB1293 **Died in Senate**

- Requires ADHS to contract with a third-party entity to inspect long-term care facilities and outlines inspection and reporting requirements beginning on July 1, 2024.

# HB2001 ADHS Rulemaking

## HB2001 Passed House 60-0; Died in Senate

- Exempts the ADHS from the Arizona Administrative Procedures Act if certain criteria are met. Amended to restrict the exemptions to accredited hospital rules.



# HB2338 Preventive Adult Dental Care AHCCCS

## HB2338 Passed House 43-15; Died in Senate & Budget

- Requires AHCCCS to provide preventive dental care to adults. Kids already have coverage.
- The modified AHCCCS estimated cost of the dental benefit is \$7.3M in state general fund with a total of \$33.8M including federal matching funds.



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# HB2211 SNAP Eligibility

## HB2211 Passed House 36-24; Died in Senate

- Allows individuals convicted of a felony involving a controlled substance to be eligible for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) if they're in compliance with all terms of probation.



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# HB2401 Feminine Hygiene Exemption

## HB2401 **Died in the House**

- Exempts feminine hygiene products and diapers from state sales tax.



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# HB2499 Nutrition Assistance Pilot

## HB2499 Passed House 40-18; Died in Senate

- Requires ADES to develop the SNAP Pilot Program to provide nutrition assistance to individuals and families who no longer qualify for the SNAP produce incentive program.



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# HB2558 Dietitian Licensure

## HB2558 Passed House 39-19; Died in Senate

- Allows ADHS to create license Licensed Dietitian Nutritionists and implement an Advisory Committee to assist them to administer the program.



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# HB2625 Residential Care Facility Inspections

## HB2625 Passed House 58-0; Died in Senate

- Adds residential care institutions (group homes) to the list of entities from which ADHS cannot accept an accreditation report instead of a compliance inspection.



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# SB1016 Speech Therapy

## SB1016 Passed Senate 24-5; Died in House

- Requires AHCCCS to cover the costs of speech therapy for eligible persons who are at least 21 years old (kids already qualify)



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# SB1017 Cochlear Implants

## SB1017 Passed Senate 23-6; Died in House

- Requires AHCCCS to cover the costs of cochlear implants for eligible persons who are at least 21 years old (kids can already).



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# SB1032 Spina Bifida

## SB1032 Passed Senate 25-4; Died in House

- Expands the definition of developmental disability to spina bifida for the purpose of receiving services through the ADES Division of Developmental Disabilities.



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# SB1159 Drug Accessories

## [SB1159](#) Passed Senate 20-9; Died in House

- Modifies the definition of drug paraphernalia to exclude testing equipment used, intended for use or designed for use in identifying or analyzing the strength, effectiveness or purity of drugs.



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# SB1710 AZ State Hospital Operations

## SB1710 Passed Senate 27-2, Amended to Make it Meaningless in the House - Died

- Effective January 1, 2025, would have transferred operations at the Arizona State Hospital from ADHS to a new State Hospital Governing Board, solving a longstanding governance problem (fox watching the henhouse)
- Would have required ASH to admit patients based on clinical need for treatment and prohibits any limit on admission based on a patient's county of residence.



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