

## Arizona Free Enterprise Club 2023 Scorecard Bills

Green = Support

Red = Opposed

\* = Club Bill

### Taxes

**SB1244 Kavanagh (S/E tax credit extension; affordable housing)** increases the allowable tax credits from \$4M to \$6M a year for the Low Income Housing Tax Credit program and extends the program from 2025 to 2028. The Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program is a wasteful program fraught with fraud that induces companies to monetize the credits to build “low income” apartments. **Failed.**

**SB1260 Mesnard (R) (small business; income tax; rate)** accelerates the income tax rate reduction currently planned for 2025 from 2.8 percent to 2.5 percent for taxable year 2024 and retroactively for taxable year 2023. **Signed.**

**SB1577 Mesnard (R) (income tax rate; reduction; surplus)** incrementally reduces the income tax by requiring 50% of a structural surplus be used to buy-down the income tax. This would guarantee that as government overtaxes the citizens, that money is returned to them, and provides a built-in mechanism to constrain the growth of government. **Failed.**

**SB1063 Borrelli (R) (food; municipal tax; exemption)** prohibits a city or town from charging sales tax for groceries. **Vetoed.**

**SB1131 Petersen (R) (municipal tax exemption; residential leases)** prohibits a city or town from charging sales tax on rental properties. **Vetoed.**

**SB1562 Kaiser (R) (research; development; tax credit)** increases the cap on R&D tax credits from \$5 million to \$10 million and allows for the Commerce Authority to issue \$50 million in refunds for backlogged credits. The existing \$2 billion in backlogged credits exist because these corporations have already completely zeroed out their tax liability. **Failed.**

### Elections

**HB2552 Smith (R) (voting; elections; tally; prohibition)** prohibits the use of Ranked Choice Voting (RCV). **Vetoed.**

\***HCR2033 Smith (R) (jungle primary prohibition)**, if approved by voters in 2024, would further protect our party-primaries and ensure every party with a qualified candidate is represented on the general election ballot. **Passed.**

**SB1597 Mesnard (early ballot on-site tabulation; requirement)** would require Maricopa and Pima Counties to provide at least one polling location in each legislative district that allows for the on-site tabulation of voted early ballots. **Vetoed.**

**SB1264 Mesnard (R) (officials; political action committee prohibition)** prohibits an individual who is or is an employee of an elected election officer who has substantial and material administrative discretion over any aspect of election operations from being a chairperson, treasurer or other member of a political action committee. **Vetoed.**

**HB2415 Biasiucci (R) (active early voting lists; removal)** removes voters from the “active” early voting list who have not participated in a single election by mail. If the voter fails to vote an early ballot in all elections for one election cycle, they are sent a notice, if they fail to respond, the election official is required to remove them from the list to automatically receive a mail in ballot. **Vetoed.**

\***SB1142 Hoffman (R) (voter registration events; posting)** requires the Secretary of State and each county recorder to post on their public websites a list of each event that the Office of the Secretary of State or the county recorder attends at which they provide voter registration services. **Failed.**

**SB1213 Kern (R) (legislative council; procedures manual)** requires the election procedures manual to be approved by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, in addition to the Governor and Attorney General. **Vetoed.**

**SB1140 Hoffman (R) (elections; voting centers; prohibited)** allows voting centers to be used only in *addition* to, not instead of, designated polling places. **Failed.**

## Education

**SB1323 Hoffman (R) (schools; sexually explicit materials; classification)** makes exposing or referring students to or using any sexually explicit material in public school a class 5 (second lowest) felony. **Failed.**

**HB2786 Heap (R) (teacher training; parental notification; requirements)** requires a school district governing board to provide parents with access to required trainings for teachers and administrators. **Vetoed.**

**SB1305 Mesnard (R) (race; ethnicity; public instruction)** prohibits the teaching of CRT (instruction that places judgement or blame on individuals on the basis of their race or ethnicity) in public schools. **Vetoed.**

**SB1706 Marsh (D) (Arizona empowerment scholarships; quarterly report)** places burdens on the ESA program, requiring reports on children and parents exercising their right to attend the schools of their choice to include things like race and ethnicity. **Failed.**

## Transportation and Environment

**\*SCR1018 Hoffman (R) (vehicle mileage; tracking; tax; prohibited)** prohibits this state, counties, municipalities, and political subdivisions from establishing reduction goals or targets for vehicle miles of travel in developing any transportation or land use planning or selecting transportation or transit projects. Additionally prohibits the tracking or maintaining a record of a person's vehicle miles of travel as well as the imposition or collection of any mileage fee or tax, a per-mile charge, fee or tax or any tax or fee based on vehicle miles traveled by an individual in a motor vehicle. **Failed.**

**\*SB1312 Hoffman (R) (vehicle mileage; tracking; tax; prohibitions)** is the same as SCR1018, but would be statutory instead of a constitutional amendment. **Failed.**

**\*SB1313 Hoffman (R) (general plan; transportation; independent study)** prohibits cities from adopting a general plan that reduces overall system capacity for drivers and requires an independent study on emergency response for projects that reduce the capacity of individual arterials or collectors. **Failed.**

**\*SB1314 Hoffman (R) (transportation performance system; ADOT)** creates definitions for the performance criteria that ADOT uses to choose and prioritize projects to ensure that the criteria cannot be manipulated into policies that do race-based planning or punish drivers. **Failed.**

**\*SB1246 Farnsworth (R) (S/E) transportation tax, Maricopa County, election)** authorizes the extension of a half-cent sales tax in Maricopa County for transportation. Unlike the proposal from the Maricopa Association of Governments and Hobbs that would have been a bailout for public transit, this Republican plan split light rail into its own question on the ballot, created farebox recovery for bus service, increased funding for freeways by \$1.5 billion, prohibited road diets, protected gas cars, and stopped the expansion of rail transit. **Vetoed.**

**SB1102 Carroll (R) (S/E) (transportation tax; Maricopa County; election)** authorizes the extension of a half-cent sales tax in Maricopa County for transportation. This version was negotiated between legislative leadership and the Governor and failed to protect guardrails against Vision Zero and road diets, over-allocated 37% of the money to failed transit projects, and watered down or ruined several key provisions in SB1246. **Signed.**

**HB2633 Livingston (R) (Maricopa county transportation excise tax)** extension of a half-cent sales tax in Maricopa County for transportation that included housing issues, bad funding allocations favoring mass transit, and no guardrails to protect against Vision Zero and road diet projects. **Failed.**

**HCM2008 Carbone (R) (air quality; ozone standards; opposing)** memorial to Arizona's Congressional delegation outlining the issues with the EPA's impossible ozone standards, requesting action from Congress to protect Arizonans from EPA overreach. **Passed.**

### **Culture War**

**\*SB1696 Hoffman (R) (sexually explicit materials; government; prohibition)** prohibits an office, board or commission, or a political subdivision of Arizona from exposing minors to "sexually explicit materials" and requires them to prohibit its contractors from exposing minors to sexually explicit materials. A facility or property owned, leased or managed by an office, board or commission, or a political subdivision of Arizona is prohibited from being used for filming or facilitating sexually explicit acts. Violations are a class 5 (second-lowest) felony. **Vetoed.**

**SB1694 Hoffman (R) (public monies; ideology training; prohibition)** prohibits public entities from using tax dollars for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) programs. **Failed.**

**SB1040 Kavanagh (R) (public schools; restrooms; reasonable accommodations)** requires schools to provide a reasonable accommodation to bathrooms and locker rooms for students who do not want to use the same facility with someone of the opposite biological sex. **Vetoed.**

### **Government & Regulation**

**\*HCR2039 Chaplik (R) (emergency powers; executive order)** restores balance of powers in the state constitution by automatically terminating the powers granted to the governor during a state of emergency after 30 days unless extended by the legislature, empowers the legislature to call itself into special session upon the signature of 1/3 of the members in both chambers, and allows the legislature, by concurrent resolution, to terminate, extend, or alter the emergency powers being granted. **Passed.**

**SB1139 Hoffman (R) (government investments; products; fiduciaries; plans)** requires governments in Arizona to protect the benefits of taxpayers by only considering factors that provide a pecuniary benefit in investment decisions. Also requires the State Treasurer to post a current list of state investments by name and a current list of investment managers on the State Treasurer's publicly accessible website. **Failed.**

**SCR1024 Wadsack (R) (S/E preferential treatment; discrimination; prohibited)** constitutionally prohibits the state from compelling an individual to endorse giving preferential treatment on the basis of race or ethnicity as a condition of any hiring, promotion or contracting decision, including by accepting federal funds that require affirmative action or other discriminatory policies. **Failed.**

**SB1410 Wadsack (R) (violations of state law; schools)** extends "1487 complaints" to school districts which allow a lawmaker to refer an allegation to the Attorney General of violations of state law or the constitution. **Vetoed.**

**SCR1023 Wadsack (R) (charter cities; repeal)** amends the constitution by repealing the authorization for charter cities. **Failed.**

### **Initiative Reform**

**SCR1015 Mesnard (R) (initiative; referendum; signatures; legislative districts)** requires, if passed by the voters in November 2024, statewide initiative measures to obtain signatures from 10 percent of the voters from each legislative district, instead of from the entire state, for a statewide measure, and from 15 percent of the voters of each legislative district, instead of from the entire state, for an amendment to the state Constitution. **Passed.**