# ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Fifty-seventh Legislature - First Regular Session

# **CAUCUS AGENDA**

#### February 25, 2025

Bill Number Short Title Committee Date Action

**Committee on Commerce** 

Chairman:Jeff Weninger, LD 13Vice Chairman:Michael Way, LD 15Analyst:Paul BennyIntern:Aaryan Dravid

HB 2869<sub>(BSI)</sub> municipal development; independent provider review

SPONSOR: WAY, LD 15 HOUSE

COM 2/18/2025 DP (6-3-1-0) (No: AGUILAR, VILLEGAS, CONNOLLY Present: CAVERO)

**Committee on Health & Human Services** 

Chairman: Selina Bliss, LD 1 Vice Chairman: Ralph Heap, LD 10

Analyst: Ahjahna Graham Intern: Ashley Bills

HB 2125<sub>(BSI)</sub> insurance coverage; hearing aids; children SPONSOR: WILLOUGHBY, LD 13 HOUSE

HHS 2/13/2025 DP (11-1-0-0)

(No: PINGERELLI)

# ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Fifty-seventh Legislature First Regular Session

House: GOV W/D | COM DP 6-3-1-0

# HB 2869: municipal development; independent provider review Sponsor: Representative Way, LD 15 Caucus & COW

#### Overview

Provides a process for municipal approval of an application and issuance for a building permit.

#### History

Municipalities, in order to conserve and promote the public health, safety and general welfare, may adopt zoning ordinances that: 1) regulate the use of buildings, structures and land between agriculture residence, industry and business; 2) regulate the location, height, bulk, number of stories and size of buildings and structures, the size and use of lots, yards, courts and other open spaces, the percentage of a lot that may be occupied by a building or structure, access to incident solar energy and the intensity of land use; 3) establish requirements for off-street parking and loading; 4) establish and maintain building setback lines; and 5) establish floodplain and age-specific community zoning districts and districts of historical significance (A.R.S. § 9-462.01).

#### **Provisions**

- 1. Allows an applicant to contract with, and provide payment directly to, an independent provider, for whom the applicant has no financial interest in, to review an application or provide a building inspection. (Sec. 1)
- 2. Prevents the independent provider from providing legal counsel to the applicant. (Sec. 1)
- 3. Outlines specified information that an applicant must provide to the municipality prior to an independent provider performs a review or inspection. (Sec. 1)
- 4. Stipulates the municipality must reduce the fee charged for a review or inspection by an amount equal to what the municipality saves by not performing a review or inspection if the applicant retains an independent provider to perform such review or inspection. (Sec. 1)
- 5. Requires an independent provider to maintain professional liability insurance covering services performed unless the insurance requirement is waived by the municipality. (Sec. 1)
- 6. Specifies the insurance coverage must have a minimum policy limit of:
  - a. \$2,000,000 per occurrence and \$4,000,000 in the aggregate for projects with construction cost of \$5,000,000 or less; and
  - b. \$4,000,000 per occurrence and \$8,000,000 in the aggregate for projects with construction cost of more than \$5,000,000. (Sec. 1)
- 7. Stipulates a municipality must provide an independent provider or applicant equal access to all relevant documents that would be provided to municipal personnel in completing a review or performing an inspection. (Sec. 1)
- 8. Requires, for access that is provided by software that protects exempt records, the municipality to provide requested permitting or inspection documents and reports to the independent provider or the applicant on receipt of an electronically submitted request. (Sec. 1)
- 9. Requires an independent provider in reviewing an application to determine compliance with all applicable municipality requirements. (Sec. 1)
- 10. Requires an independent provider, on determining application compliance, to submit an affidavit to the municipality certifying application reviewal and conformity with municipality requirements. (Sec. 1)

□ Prop 105 (45 votes)	□ Prop 108 (40 votes)	☐ Emergency (40 votes)	$\Box$ Fiscal Note
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- 11. Instructs the municipality to either approve the application or provide a written notice identifying the portions of the application that are not in compliance with applicable municipal codes within five business days after receipt of a reviewed application and required affidavit. (Sec. 1)
- 12. Deems the application approved and any necessary permits be issued if the municipality neither approves nor provides the required written notice. (Sec. 1)
- 13. Stipulates, for applicants that resubmit a revised application, the regulatory authority has what remains of the initial five-day review time frame plus one business day to approve the application and issue the requested building permit or provide a second written notice identifying which portions remain in noncompliance. (Sec. 1)
- 14. Deems the resubmitted application approved and any necessary permits be issued if the municipality neither approves the application nor provides a second required written notice within 5 days after resubmittal. (Sec. 1)
- 15. Stipulates any decision regarding the issuance of an application by a regulatory authority is appealable to the planning and development board which must adjudicate the dispute. (Sec. 1)
- 16. Precludes a municipality from adopting or enforcing any laws, rules, policies or standards regarding an independent provider's review of an application or performance of a building inspection that are more restrictive as provided. (Sec. 1)
- 17. Affirms the municipality's ability to issue a stop-work order for a building project if determined that a condition on the building site constitutes an immediate threat to public safety and health. (Sec. 1)
- 18. Authorizes an applicate to institute a civil proceeding seeking a determination and issuance of appropriate permits or certificates if the applicant believes the municipality has committed outlined acts. (Sec. 1)
- 19. Defines applicant, application and independent provider. (Sec. 1)
- 20. Contains a delayed effective date of January 1, 2026. (Sec. 2)
- 21. Contains a severability clause. (Sec. 3)
- 22. Cites this act as the "Speeding Development Act." (Sec. 4)

## ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Fifty-seventh Legislature First Regular Session

House: HHS DP 11-1-0-0

### HB 2125: insurance coverage; hearing aids; children Sponsor: Representative Willoughby, LD 13 Caucus & COW

#### **Overview**

Requires a health care services organization that issues, amends, delivers or renews evidence of coverage to provide coverage for hearing aids and related services to eligible enrollees.

#### **History**

A *health care services organization* is any person that undertakes to conduct one or more health care plans. Unless the context otherwise requires, health care services organizations includes a provider sponsored health care services organization. An *evidence of coverage* is any certificate, agreement or contract issued to an enrollee and setting out the coverage to which the enrollee is entitled (A.R.S. § 20-1051).

*Hearing aids* are used to improve the hearing and speech comprehension of people who have hearing loss (<u>National Institute of Health</u>).

#### **Provisions**

- 23. Requires a health care services organization that issues, amends, delivers or renews evidence of coverage to provide full coverage for any hearing aid and related service for an enrollee who is under 18 years old or 21 years old if the enrollee is still attending high school. (Sec. 1)
- 24. Allows a health care services organization to make available to the enrollee the option of purchasing additional hearing aid coverage that exceeds the described services. (Sec. 1)
- 25. Requires hearing aid coverage to include fitting and dispensing services, providing ear molds as necessary to maintain optimal fit and any related services as provided by a licensed health care provider. (Sec. 1)
- 26. Excludes short-term travel, accident-only, limited or limited benefit coverage from the hearing aid coverage requirements. (Sec. 1)
- 27. Specifies that coverage for hearing aids may be subject to deductibles and coinsurance consistent with those imposed on other benefits under the same evidence of coverage. (Sec. 1)
- 28. Defines hearing aid and licensed health care provider. (Sec. 1)
- 29. Applies the hearing aid coverage requirements to any evidence of coverage issued with an effective date of December 31, 2025. (Sec. 2)

□ Prop 105 (45 votes)	□ Prop 108 (40 votes)	☐ Emergency (40 votes)	□ Fiscal Note	