

ARIZONA STATE SENATE

SENATE REGULATORY AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE

Minutes of the Meeting
January 15, 2025
9:10 A.M., SHR 109

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting here:

<https://www.azleg.gov/videoplayer/?clientID=6361162879&eventID=2025011019>

Members Present:

Senator Shawna Bolick, Chair
Senator Frank Carroll, Vice-chair
Senator Denise "Mitzi" Epstein
Senator Brian Fernandez
Senator Venden "Vince" Leach
Senator Analise Ortiz
Senator Kevin Payne

Staff:

Jason Theodorou, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Research Analyst
Kati Pratt, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Research Assistant Analyst
Jenn Ramirez-Mendoza, Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Research Intern

Chairman Bolick called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. and attendance was noted.

OPENING REMARKS

Senator Bolick offered comments.

SUNSET REVIEW OF THE ARIZONA EXPOSITION AND STATE FAIR BOARD

Presentation by the Arizona Exposition and State Fair Board

Wanell Costello, Executive Director, Arizona Exposition and State Fair Board, played a video labeled "AZ State Fair" (Attachment A, USB) and distributed and explained a handout entitled "Arizona Exposition & State Fair, 2025 Sunset Review" (Attachment B) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

Ms. Costello answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

Public Testimony

No public testimony took place.

Discussion and Recommendation

Senator Carroll moved that the Committee of Reference recommend the Arizona Exposition and State Fair Board be continued with revisions. The motion CARRIED by voice vote.

The Committee offered comments.

SUNSET REVIEW OF THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

Presentation by the Arizona Office of the Auditor General

Cassie DeCocq, Senior Performance Auditor, Office of the Auditor General, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Arizona Department of Housing - Performance Audit and Sunset Review" (Attachment C) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Jeff Gove, Director, Performance Audit Division, Office of the Auditor General, answered questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. DeCocq answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

Ms. DeCocq answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Marc Owen, Performance Audit Manager, Office of the Arizona Auditor General, explained the Sunset Review information of the PowerPoint presentation entitled "Arizona Department of Housing - Performance Audit and Sunset Review" (Attachment C) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Response by the Arizona Department of Housing

Joan Serviss, Director, Arizona Department of Housing, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Sunset Audit Review Hearing" (Attachment D) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Mr. Owen answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Serviss answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Mr. Owen answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Public Testimony

Nicole Newhouse, Executive Director, Arizona Housing Coalition, testified in support of the continuation of the Arizona Department of Housing.

Heather Lafferty, Ulysses Development Group, testified in support of the continuation of the Arizona Department of Housing.

The Committee offered comments.

Discussion and Recommendation

The Committee discussed and recommended to bring back the Auditor General and come up with a plan to review and initiate a follow-up process in March 2025.

Senator Carroll moved that the Committee of Reference recommend the Arizona Department of Housing be continued with revisions. The motion CARRIED by voice vote.

Attached is a list noting the individuals who registered their position on the agenda items (Attachment E).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Benally
Committee Secretary

(Audio recordings and attachments are on file in the Secretary of the Senate's Office/Resource Center, Room 115. Audio archives are available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)