# ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

# HB 2145: household goods; unlawful moving practices

**PRIME SPONSOR:** Representative Weninger, LD 17

**BILL STATUS:** House Engrossed

DPA: COM 9-0-0-0

#### Legend:

FMCSA – Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

DPS – Arizona Department of Public Safety Moving Company – Household Goods Mover

AG – Arizona Attorney General

Amendments – **BOLD** and **Stricken** (Committee)

#### **Abstract**

Relating to moving consumer household goods in-state.

#### **Provisions**

- 1. Prohibits a Moving Company that provides moving services in-state from refusing to deliver a person's household goods or placing a lien on the goods. (Sec. 1)
- 2. Requires a Moving Company to accurately disclose all fees, rates and charges, including the scope of the insurance coverage for lost or damaged goods. (Sec. 1)
- 3. Asserts that any violation of the provisions are an unlawful practice of the Consumer Fraud Act, which the AG may investigate and take appropriate action. (Sec. 1)
- 4. Makes a violation subject to civil or criminal action and any other penalty provided by law.
- 5. Defines pertinent terms.

### **Current Law**

Title 44, Chapter 10, Article 7, Consumer Fraud Act, stipulates the unlawful acts and practices that constitute a violation of Arizona law. A.R.S. § 44-1522 states that any deception or unfair act or practice, fraud, misrepresentation or omission in the sale or advertising of merchandise is an unlawful practice whether or not a person has actually been misled, deceived or damaged. The AG may investigate and prosecute violations.

## **Additional Information**

The <u>FMCSA</u> is the federal agency that regulates *interstate* moving companies and allows a consumer to verify that a mover is federally licensed. The website information and available booklets outline a consumer's rights and responsibilities, including remedies for violations of law.

In Arizona, the AG's <u>online website</u> provides information that applies before and after a move, cautioning consumers to know their rights, get on-site inspections and written estimates, ask about charges, and research the various available companies for licensing and complaint history. There is also information available for filing a complaint with that office. In cases where a moving company holds a person's goods hostage, requiring extra payment or cash payment before release of the goods, the AG advises the consumer to call the DPS hotline for assistance.

$\square$ Prop 105 (45 votes) $\square$ Prop 108 (40 votes) $\square$ Emergency (40 votes) $\square$ Fi	Fiscal Note