

REFERENCE TITLE: **eviction prevention; study committee.**

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-fifth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2022

SB 1488

Introduced by
Senators Stahl Hamilton: Alston, Gabaldon, Hatathlie, Marsh, Terán

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING THE STUDY COMMITTEE ON STATEWIDE EVICTION PREVENTION AND HOUSING AFFORDABILITY.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Study committee on statewide eviction prevention
3 and housing affordability; membership; duties;
4 delayed repeal

5 A. The study committee on statewide eviction prevention and housing
6 affordability is established consisting of the following members:

7 1. Two members of the senate, one from each political party, who
8 are appointed by the president of the senate. The president of the senate
9 shall designate one of these members to serve as cochairperson of the
10 committee.

11 2. Two members of the house of representatives, one from each
12 political party, who are appointed by the speaker of the house of
13 representatives. The speaker of the house of representatives shall
14 appoint one of these members to serve as cochairperson of the committee.

15 3. The director of the Arizona department of housing or the
16 director's designee.

17 4. The chief justice of the Arizona supreme court or the chief
18 justice's designee.

19 5. The following members who are appointed by the president of the
20 senate:

21 (a) One county constable from a county with a population of eight
22 hundred fifty thousand persons or more.

23 (b) One representative from a statewide housing advocacy
24 organization.

25 (c) One representative of a county housing authority from a county
26 with a population of over one million five hundred thousand persons.

27 (d) One representative from a city or county-wide nonprofit
28 organization with experience distributing rental or other assistance to
29 tenants.

30 (e) One representative from a statewide property owners
31 association.

32 (f) One representative from a state university who researches
33 poverty and income inequality or racial equity issues.

34 (g) One representative of a county housing authority from a county
35 with a population of less than eight hundred fifty thousand persons.

36 6. The following members who are appointed by the speaker of the
37 house of representatives:

38 (a) One county constable from a county with a population of less
39 than eight hundred fifty thousand persons.

40 (b) One representative from a state university who researches
41 statewide housing affordability issues.

42 (c) One representative of a county housing authority from a county
43 with a population of more than eight hundred fifty thousand but less than
44 one million five hundred thousand persons.

1 (d) One representative of small property landlords of less than
2 twenty-five housing units.

3 (e) One representative from a state university who researches
4 issues of housing affordability, poverty and racial equity.

5 (f) A representative from a Tribal, African American, Hispanic,
6 Latino or other historically disadvantaged community.

7 B. The study committee shall meet quarterly or more frequently as
8 the cochairpersons deem necessary.

9 C. Committee members are not eligible to receive compensation.

10 D. The study committee shall:

11 1. Conduct a comprehensive study to determine how this state can
12 reduce eviction filings and mitigate the costs, both financial and
13 personal, to tenants and to landlords, attributable to the state's current
14 eviction process.

15 2. Review policies, statutes and practices that impact evictions
16 both before court action as well as during the court process.

17 3. Explore opportunities for this state to develop a system that
18 ensures tenants understand their rights under the law and have access to
19 equitable support in the justice court system.

20 4. Gather data on rental and home pricing and conduct research on
21 housing affordability issues in this state.

22 5. Propose revisions to statutes to reduce eviction filings and
23 that include policy measures to improve housing affordability in this
24 state.

25 6. Identify state resources that can be devoted to improving the
26 court process pertaining to evictions and addressing housing affordability
27 needs.

28 7. Propose legislation to address issues identified by the study
29 committee.

30 8. On or before December 1, 2022, submit a report regarding the
31 study committee's activities and recommendations for administrative or
32 legislative action to the governor, the president of the senate and the
33 speaker of the house of representatives and provide a copy of this report
34 to the secretary of state.

35 E. This section is repealed from and after October 31, 2023.