

REFERENCE TITLE: Arizona America250 commission

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

# **SB 1497**

Introduced by  
Senator Leach

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING THE ARIZONA AMERICA250 COMMISSION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Arizona America250 commission; membership; duties;  
3 report; delayed repeal

4 A. The Arizona America250 commission is established to plan,  
5 develop, encourage and coordinate the commemoration of the two hundred  
6 fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the United States and the impact  
7 of the citizens of this state on the nation's past, present and future.

8 B. The commission consists of:

9 1. One member of the senate who is appointed by the president of  
10 the senate.

11 2. One member of the house of representatives who is appointed by  
12 the speaker of the house of representatives.

13 3. The following members who are appointed by the governor:

14 (a) One member who represents the historic preservation community.

15 (b) One member who represents the tourism industry.

16 (c) One member who represents the veterans community.

17 (d) One member who represents the parks and recreation industry.

18 (e) One member who represents the arts community.

19 (f) One member who represents a recognized Indian tribe in this  
20 state.

21 (g) One member who represents the education community.

22 (h) One member who represents the business community.

23 (i) One member from a fraternal organization.

24 C. Members of the commission:

25 1. Shall elect a chairperson and vice chairperson from among the  
26 members of the commission.

27 2. Shall serve for the life of the commission, unless the term of a  
28 public official expires before the end of the commission creating a  
29 vacancy. All vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as prescribed  
30 in subsection B of this section.

31 3. May not be removed from the commission, except for incompetence  
32 or inefficiency.

33 4. Are not eligible to receive compensation or reimbursement of  
34 expenses.

35 D. The commission shall meet on the call of the chairperson. A  
36 majority of the members constitutes a quorum for the transaction of  
37 business.

38 E. The commission shall:

39 1. Plan, coordinate and implement an overall program to build  
40 public awareness of and foster public participation in celebrating and  
41 commemorating the two hundred fiftieth anniversary of the independence and  
42 founding of the United States.

43 2. Coordinate with federal, state and local agencies and private  
44 organizations on projects and programs to welcome and encourage national  
45 and international tourists.

- 1           3. Consider any related plans and programs developed by federal,  
2 state, local or private groups.
- 3           4. On or before December 31, 2026, conduct extensive public  
4 engagement throughout this state to develop programs with other agencies,  
5 communities or organizations that may take place to mark the two hundred  
6 fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the United States.
- 7           5. Draw attention to the achievements, honors, innovations and  
8 significance of the people in this state since before the founding of this  
9 state to the present day and showcase all the counties in this state.
- 10          6. Designate special committees with representatives from  
11 stakeholder groups to plan, develop and coordinate activities.
- 12          7. Recommend ways for this state to commemorate the two hundred  
13 fiftieth anniversary of the independence and founding of the United States  
14 through state and local legacy projects for counties and municipalities,  
15 including seeking ways to enhance educational programs, civic education  
16 and extended learning offered by the state board of education, the  
17 department of education, other relevant state agencies and community  
18 colleges and universities of this state.
- 19          8. Emphasize the service and sacrifices of veterans who have  
20 secured and preserved American independence and freedom and encourage  
21 citizens of this state to honor them.
- 22          9. Celebrate and commemorate events and activities throughout this  
23 state.
- 24          F. On or before December 31 of each year, the commission shall  
25 submit to the governor and the legislature a report of the activities of  
26 the commission, the outputs and outcomes achieved and whether those  
27 achievements meet the commission's plan and overall program.
- 28          G. This section is repealed from and after September 30, 2026.