

REFERENCE TITLE: study committee; student-led school clubs

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-sixth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2023

## **SB 1677**

Introduced by  
Senators Epstein: Diaz, Fernandez, Gabaldón, Marsh, Miranda, Terán

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING THE STUDENT-LED SCHOOL CLUBS STUDY COMMITTEE.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Student-led school clubs study committee;  
3 membership; duties; report; delayed repeal;  
4 definition

5 A. The student-led school clubs study committee is established.

6 B. Any member of the legislature may opt to join the study  
7 committee, provided that there must always be an equal number of  
8 legislators from each political party on the study committee.

9 C. In addition to the members described in subsection B of this  
10 section, the study committee consists of the following members:

11 1. Two students who attend a charter school in this state, who have  
12 an interest in student-led school clubs and who are appointed by the  
13 speaker of the house of representatives.

14 2. Two parents of students who attend a charter school in this  
15 state who have an interest in student-led school clubs and who are  
16 appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives.

17 3. Two students who attend a school that is operated by a school  
18 district in this state, who have an interest in student-led school clubs  
19 and who are appointed by the president of the senate.

20 4. Two parents of students who attend a school that is operated by  
21 a school district in this state who have an interest in student-led school  
22 clubs and who are appointed by the minority leader of the senate.

23 D. The majority leader of the house of representatives and the  
24 minority leader of the house of representatives shall each appoint one  
25 member to serve as cochairpersons of the study committee.

26 E. The study committee shall consider legislative proposals to  
27 require publicly funded schools to allow student-led school clubs to  
28 operate and recruit on campus, provided that fair conditions are met. The  
29 members may vote on various considerations and may recommend legislative  
30 action. The result of these votes may inform potential bill sponsors but  
31 may not have any other impact. The study committee shall actively seek  
32 questions and comments on student-led school clubs from the public,  
33 education-focused organizations and education experts in person and via  
34 teleconference, letters and digital communications.

35 F. The study committee shall consider and make recommendations  
36 regarding the following process:

37 1. A student desiring to begin or continue a student-led school  
38 club shall apply in any format to the publicly funded school. The  
39 application shall describe all of the following:

40 (a) The mission of the club.

41 (b) How students will be recruited to the club.

42 (c) How students will make decisions with the members of the club  
43 and for the pursuits of the club.

1           2. If any of the descriptions included under paragraph 1 of this  
2 subsection would violate school policies, school officials may disallow  
3 the club or may close an existing club, but the following may not be used  
4 to disallow or close a club:

5           (a) Religious views, unless allowing the club would violate the  
6 state or federal constitution.

7           (b) Political views.

8           (c) Peer support for the LGBTQ community, the disability community,  
9 any race or culture or any other community in which students feel they are  
10 misunderstood.

11           3. A school official may disallow or close a student-led school  
12 club any time if the actions or communications of the club do or are  
13 likely to promote violence, hate, distrust or disrespect for any students,  
14 faculty, staff or other people.

15           G. In addition to the process described in subsection F of this  
16 section, the study committee may consider and make recommendations  
17 regarding any other factor that is considered in requiring a publicly  
18 funded school to allow student-led school clubs to operate and recruit on  
19 campus.

20           H. On or before July 1, 2024, the study committee shall submit a  
21 report regarding its findings and recommendations to the governor, the  
22 president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives  
23 and shall provide a copy of this report to the secretary of state.

24           I. This section is repealed from and after December 31, 2024.

25           J. For the purposes of this section, "publicly funded school":

26           1. Means a school or an educator that accepts monies from this  
27 state.

28           2. Includes:

29           (a) A school that is operated by a school district.

30           (b) A charter school.

31           (c) A school or educator that accepts Arizona empowerment  
32 scholarship account monies.

33           (d) A school or educator that accepts monies from students who  
34 received a student tuition organization scholarship.