

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-seventh Legislature
First Regular Session
2025

HB 2051

Introduced by
Representatives Kolodin: Blackman

AN ACT

**AMENDING TITLE 41, CHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY
ADDING SECTION 41-117; RELATING TO THE GOVERNOR.**

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Title 41, chapter 1, article 1, Arizona Revised
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 41-117, to read:

4 41-117. Governor's questions

5 A. BEGINNING JANUARY 4, 2027, ON THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH
6 DURING THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION, THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPEAR BEFORE THE
7 LEGISLATURE AND ANSWER QUESTIONS ASKED BY MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

8 B. THE GOVERNOR SHALL:

9 1. APPEAR FOR QUESTIONING IN FRONT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 AND SENATE ON ALTERNATING MONTHS, BEGINNING WITH THE SENATE IN
11 ODD-NUMBERED YEARS AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN EVEN-NUMBERED
12 YEARS.

13 2. ANSWER ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

14 (a) TWO QUESTIONS POSED BY THE MAJORITY LEADER OR THE MAJORITY
15 LEADER'S DESIGNEE.

16 (b) TWO QUESTIONS POSED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OR THE MINORITY
17 LEADER'S DESIGNEE.

18 (c) ONE QUESTION EACH BY FOUR MEMBERS OF THE BODY, SELECTED AT
19 RANDOM BY THE PRESIDING OFFICER OF THE BODY.

20 (d) ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION TO EACH QUESTION ASKED, IF REQUESTED BY
21 THE QUESTIONER.

22 C. IF THE GOVERNOR IS NOT PRESENT IN THE STATE, THE LIEUTENANT
23 GOVERNOR SHALL PERFORM THE DUTIES OF THE GOVERNOR PRESCRIBED BY THIS
24 SECTION. IN OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES THE GOVERNOR, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE
25 PRESIDING OFFICER OF THE BODY TO BE ATTENDED, MAY DESIGNATE THE LIEUTENANT
26 GOVERNOR TO PERFORM SUCH DUTIES.

27 D. THIS SECTION DOES NOT DO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

28 1. AFFECT ANY OF THE LEGISLATURE'S OR GOVERNOR'S OTHER RIGHTS OR
29 PRIVILEGES THAT MAY EXIST AT LAW.

30 2. RECOGNIZE, CREATE OR DISPARAGE ANY OTHER RIGHTS OR PRIVILEGES.

31 3. PREVENT EACH BODY FROM ENFORCING ANY OF THE BODY'S RULES,
32 INCLUDING RULES OF DECORUM.

33 Sec. 2. Legislative findings

34 The legislature finds that:

35 1. Impromptu exchanges between the legislature and the executive
36 such as the United Kingdom's Prime Minister's questions are associated
37 with higher levels of voter turnout, political knowledge and political
38 engagement among the general public. These relationships hold even when
39 accounting for many other factors known to affect political engagement.
40 Rob Salmond, Parliamentary Question Times: How Legislative Accountability
41 Mechanisms Affect Mass Political Engagement. J. Legis. Stud. 20, 321-341
42 (2014).

43 2. Article V, section 1 of the Arizona Constitution states that the
44 governor "shall perform such duties as are prescribed by the Constitution
45 and as may be provided by law."

1 3. An effective and accountable government relies on an engaged,
2 well-informed voter base and it is the duty of all elected officials to
3 provide the public with opportunities to become informed about state
4 government. Creating opportunities for regular exchanges between the
5 legislature and the executive will increase civic engagement among Arizona
6 voters and provide engaging learning opportunities to Arizona students.