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**Human Relations Commission  
Tuesday, June 8, 2021  
6:00 p.m. – Call to Order**

**Virtual**

Microsoft Teams meeting

**Join on your computer or mobile app**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

**Or call in (audio only)**

[+1 480-498-8745](#) United States, Phoenix

Phone Conference ID: 936 327 717#

**Notice of Meeting**

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02 notice is hereby given to the members of the Human Relations Commission and the general public that the Commission will hold a meeting open to the public on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 6:00pm for the purpose of discussing matters on its agenda.

This meeting will be held virtually through Microsoft Teams at the following link: [Click here to join the meeting](#) or by dialing the conference number and entering the ID listed above. Public comments may be submitted to Jonae Harrison by email or phone no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 8, 2021.

## **AGENDA**

**1. Public Appearances**

The Human Relations Commission welcomes public comment at this time. There is a five-minute time limit per person. \*\* Please note we encourage the community to attend, participate and contact us. If we can assist or partner with you on an issue, we ask you to place the topic on the agenda for the next meeting. In this way, the Commission will serve notice to the community of our discussion, consideration, and possible action on the topic. Please feel free to speak with any Commissioner or Commission staff member so we may assist you.

**2. Consideration of Minutes: HRC – May 11, 2021**

**3. Discussion: Status of Schools in Legislature**

**4. Discussion: HRC Reporting Template**

**5. Discussion: Unity Walk 2022**

**6. Update: Status of Return to In-Person Meetings**

**7. Proposed Future Agenda Items – Opportunity for Commission members to raise potential future agenda items. No discussion or legal action will be taken on items requested for future agendas.**

**8. Upcoming Meeting – Tuesday, August 10, 2021**

For those of you who may not be able to attend the next Commission meeting in person, please remember that you can "officially attend" by using the virtual conference function above. An attempt will be made to have the conference meeting set-up by 5:50 p.m. If for some reason you are unsuccessful in getting connected, please contact Equity & Inclusion Manager, Jonae Harrison at 480-549-4528 or [jonae\\_harrison@tempe.gov](mailto:jonae_harrison@tempe.gov).

**According to the Arizona Open Meeting Law, the Commission may only discuss matters listed on the Commission agenda. The City of Tempe endeavors to make all public meetings accessible to persons with disabilities. With 48 hours advance notice, special assistance is available at public meetings for sight and/or hearing-impaired persons. Please call 350-2905 (voice) or 350-8400 (TDD) to request an accommodation to participate in a public meeting.**

# MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** June 8, 2021  
**TO:** Human Relations Commission  
**FROM:** Marge Zylla, Government Relations Officer  
**SUBJECT:** State Legislative Update and Background Information

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## State Legislative Update

As of this writing, we are over 140 days into the 2021 state legislative session. As of this writing, 1,730 bills have been posted, 409 have passed the Legislature, 381 have been signed by the Governor and 27 have been vetoed by the Governor.

### *State Budget*

The week of 5/24/21, the House and the Senate introduced the state budget bills and heard them in their respective Appropriations Committees. However, the budget package did not have the votes to move forward beyond the committee level in either chamber. This is positive for cities, including Tempe, as the budget package included tax provisions harm cities. The tax provisions would result in an estimated annual revenue loss to Tempe of \$9.6 million when the tax is fully in effect. The cities continue to advocate for a solution that would hold municipalities harmless from revenue reductions at the state level. If the state reduces overall income tax revenue without increasing the proportion that flows back to cities to fund local needs, then cities' budgets across the state will be reduced.

Because of the lack of support for the budget in the House overall, the House adjourned until 6/10/21. The Senate then followed suit. Currently, we believe that the proposal will have to change in favor of cities in order to get sufficient support to pass. The state legislature is required to pass a budget prior to the end of the fiscal year (June 30<sup>th</sup>).

In response to the budget stalemate, the Governor vetoed 22 bills, noting that he does not plan on signing any bills until the state budget is passed.

## State Legislative Principles

At the November 5, 2020 Tempe City Council meeting, the Council reviewed and supported the 2021 State Legislative Principles. The principles are available at [this link](#) and continue to guide the development of policy statements and positions throughout the 2021 legislative session.

The First Regular Session of Arizona's 55<sup>th</sup> State Legislature began Monday, January 11, 2021. The State Legislature considers many legislative proposals throughout the session. Because of the broad responsibilities held by municipal governments, many legislative proposals have the potential to impact City operations, finances and governance.

The Tempe City Council has identified safety, strong community connections, quality of life, sustainability, and financial stability as priorities in the delivery of City services. The legislative principles reflect these strategic priorities and include topics that may be addressed during the 2021 session. The list is not exhaustive and staff seeks direction from the Mayor and Council on additional policy matters as they develop.

During the legislative session, staff works continuously with Mayor and Council, state legislators, the League of Arizona Cities and Towns and other partners to ensure that the City's perspective and interests are represented in policy discussions and decisions.

### **Arizona State Legislature Makeup and Tempe Legislators**

Overall makeup of the State Legislature:

- House of Representatives: 31R-29D. This overall split is unchanged from the 2020 session, however, it is reflected in different districts—the Democrats lost one seat (LD-4) and the Republicans lost one seat (LD-20).
- State Senate: 16R-14D. This is a gain of one seat for the Democrats since last session (LD-28).

Tempe is overlapped by 3 legislative districts, LD 18, 26 and 27. Attached is a one-page document listing the senators and state representatives in these districts, including their contact information and committee assignments for the 2021 session.

### **Connect with Legislative Information**

Weekly legislative updates are available through the City Council Weekly Information Packets. These packets are published evening Friday at [this link](#). They contain updates from departments throughout the city and include state and federal updates. The hundreds of bills tracked by the city are included as a list with weekly updates on activity and the city's position. The bills are categorized by city department or focus area, e.g. "Strategic Management & Diversity", "Fire Medical Rescue", "Sustainability" and keyword searches can be done through the "Find" (Ctrl+F) feature.

Another way to connect is to sign up for the list-serve for legislative updates. These are typically "alerts" for fast-moving pieces of legislation which may have an upcoming decision that could warrant action prior to the City Council Weekly Information Packet publish date. To sign up, select "Elections and Legislative Alerts" (at the base of the list) at [this link](#).

### **Neighborhood Day to Connect with the State Legislature**

If you would like to connect more with activity at the State Capitol, join the Mayor and Council for the Neighborhood Day to Connect with the State Legislature, held annually in January or February. Participants have the opportunity to meet the members of Council, learn about Tempe's legislative program and get acquainted with their Arizona legislative representatives. Sign up on the list-serve noted above to receive information on the timing of the 2022 event.

# State Legislators Representing Tempe

## 2021 Legislative Session

Email suffix is @azleg.gov

Senate (3)



Sean Bowie  
 Democrat  
 District 18  
 Phone Number: 602-926-5152  
 Email prefix: **SBOWIE**

- Appropriations
- Finance (Ranking Member)
- Commerce



Juan Mendez  
 Democrat  
 District 26  
 Phone Number: 602-926-4124  
 Email prefix: **JMENDEZ**

- Government (Ranking Member)
- Finance
- Natural Resources, Energy & Water



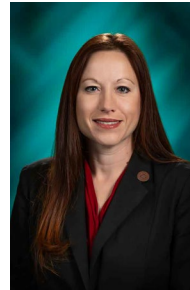
Rebecca Rios  
 Senate Democratic Leader  
 Democrat  
 District 27  
 Phone Number: 602-926-3073  
 Email prefix: **RRIOS**

- Rules



Mitzi Epstein  
 Democrat  
 District 18  
 Phone Number: 602-926-4870  
 Email prefix: **MEPSTEIN**

- Ways & Means (Ranking Member)
- Land, Agriculture & Rural Affairs
- Rules



Jennifer Jermaine  
 Democrat  
 District 18  
 Phone Number: 602-926-3199  
 Email prefix: **JJERMAINE**

- Military Affairs & Public Safety (Ranking Member)
- Government & Elections



Melody Hernandez  
 Democrat  
 District 26  
 Phone Number: 602-926-5187  
 Email prefix: **MHERNANDEZ**

- Military Affairs & Public Safety
- Judiciary



Athena Salman  
 Democrat  
 District 26  
 Phone Number: 602-926-4858  
 Email prefix: **ASALMAN**

- Government & Elections (Ranking Member)
- Education



Reginald Bolding  
 House Democratic Leader  
 Democrat  
 District 27  
 Phone Number: 602-926-3132  
 Email prefix: **RBOLDING**

- Criminal Justice Reform



Diego Rodriguez  
 Democrat  
 District 27  
 Phone Number: 602-926-3285  
 Email prefix: **DRODRIGUEZ**

- Criminal Justice Reform (Ranking Member)
- Land, Agriculture & Rural Affairs
- Commerce
- Judiciary