

ARIZONA REALTORS® LEGISLATIVE TRACKING

With the passing of the 100th day of the session on April 20th, the Arizona Legislature and lawmakers voted to extend the session deadline. There are mixed opinions as to when they will adopt a budget and adjourn sine die.

Although Arizona's growth in the last decade was expected to be enough to gain a 10th congressional seat, the U.S. Census announced its final numbers this week and for the first time in 70 years, Arizona will not be among the six states gaining a seat.

The Maricopa County ballot audit by the Senate's contractors kicked off despite a lawsuit asking to stop the process. The judge declined to order a halt but did rule that the firm conducting the audit must make its policies and procedures available—not sealed, as they requested. Additionally, the Secretary of State was granted the right to observe the audit.

At this point, 339 of the 1708 bills have passed, 302 signed, 3 vetoed and plenty have died.

So, what are the Arizona REALTORS® doing for you? With 2021 REALTOR® bills all passed, the REALTORS® have been working hard from the defensive front, amending or killing numerous bills that could negatively impact the industry. From transaction coordinators to land division, the REALTORS® may not always agree with legislators, but your investment in RAPAC has allowed us to foster long-lasting relationships with elected leaders and find solutions when we do disagree. For more information on bills visit www.AZleg.gov.

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS: Earlier this month the Treasury Department released its guidance for the Homeowner Assistance Fund which provides \$9.961 billion for states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories, Tribes or Tribal entities, and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to provide housing assistance support to homeowners impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Arizona REALTORS® held numerous calls with Governor Ducey's office in support of the Governor applying for Homeowner Assistance Fund dollars before the 4/25 application deadline. We were able to confirm that the Governor's office met that deadline applying for \$198 million to assist homeowners in Arizona. The Arizona REALTORS® will continue to tract this application and communicate any available assistance programs, if and when, the application is approved.

Passed REALTOR® Legislation:

- [HB2085](#) (Chaplik) *real estate; employees; rent collection*: Codifies state law to allow a person who is not a real estate licensee to collect in-person rent for the use of real estate and related fees as part of the person's clerical duties if the person works for a real estate broker or real estate salesperson, the rent collection is on behalf of the licensee, and the person provides a receipt when rent is paid. Additionally, the legislation directs the Commissioner of the Arizona Department of Real Estate to require a person applying for a license under reciprocity licensure laws to pass an examination specific to Arizona laws relating to real estate before issuing the license. Signed by the Governor 2/12.
- [SB1310](#) (Shope) *Special Plates; Real Estate*: Establishes a REALTOR® Specialty License Plate, that will also support affordable housing efforts in the state. Signed by the Governor 3/26.

- [SB1377](#) (Leach) *Civil Liability; Public Health Pandemic*: If the Governor declares a state of emergency for a public health pandemic, a person or "provider" (defined) that acts in good faith to protect a person or the public from injury from the pandemic is not liable for damages in any civil action for any injury, death or loss to person or property that is based on a claim that the person or provider failed to protect the person or the public from the effects of the pandemic, unless it is proven by clear and convincing evidence that the person or provider failed to act or acted with willful misconduct or gross negligence. The Arizona REALTORS® ensured REALTORS® are protected under the definition of Providers. Signed by the Governor 4/5.

SESSION SUMMARY AS OF APRIL 30, 2021

Day of Session: 110
Bills Posted: 1708
Bills Passed: 339
Bills Vetoed: 3
Bills Signed: 302
Mem, Res Posted: 121
Mem, Res Passed: 7