

LWVAZ Action Report and Alert

February 19, 2017

Legislative Bill Summary

Bills introduced: 1054

Bills passed: 1

Bills vetoed: 0

Bills signed: 0

It was a busy week. The good news is that Friday was the last day that the House could hear any bills in their committees and same goes for the Senate. BUT... the Appropriations committee is still allowed to bring up bills. And Rep. Shooter did just that, he put in three bills. See below!

But first, good news is the number of bills being followed are way down and should be easier to handle! The only exception is that they will come fast and furious for the next couple of weeks – So be prepared for more Action Alerts!

GOOD NEWS: HCR 2004 clean elections repeal; education funding failed to pass the House Appropriation Committee on a 6-7-1 vote on Wed. Feb. 15. This bill would have required the 2018 general election ballot to question whether to transfer the ten percent surcharge fee collected through the Citizens Clean Elections to Az Dept. of Education for maintenance and operations for public schools. So can put this one to rest!!

On Thursday, Feb 16, the following bills passed or failed in House Government Committee and other committees.

HB2055 Ballots, defective cure. Passed in the Gov. Comm. **We supported this one.**

HB2403 Clean Elections, contribution prohibition. Passed in the Gov. Comm. and COW/caucus
HB2304 Voter guide, publicity pamphlet, email. Passed in Gov. and Rules committees

HB2448 Voter registration, identification. This FAILED in Gov. Comm.

HB2404 Initiatives, circulation, supportive collection, contest. Passed in Gov. Comm.

HB2302 Electoral college electors. Passed in Gov. Comm. and COW and has been sent to the Senate.

HCR2006 Article V convention. Passed in Gov. Comm. and COW.

Bills coming up in House Rules Committee on Monday, Feb. 20.

HB2320: Ballot measures proposition 105 disclosure. **Oppose**

HB2404: Initiatives, circulation, supportive collection, contest. **Oppose**

HCR2002: Repeal 1998 Prop 105. **Oppose**

HCR2007: Prop 105 Exempt referendums from Voters Protection. **Oppose**

When bills are in the Rules committee, the members don't vote to pass or fail the bill, they just make sure the bill is written properly. LWV members need to start sending emails to your own State Representatives and Senator as these will now go to COW (Committee of the Whole) and the full House or Senate.

The 3 bills brought to the House Appropriations Committee by Rep. Don Shooter. We thought we were safe on Merit Selection for another year but no such luck.!

THESE COME UP ON WED., FEB. 22 IN APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE @ 2 pm. PLEASE DO an **RTS AND OPPOSE THEM!**

[HB 2534: JUDICIAL ELECTIONS; TERM: REQUIREMENTS](#) - **OPPOSE**

Various changes in order to eliminate merit selection of justices and judges and provide instead for their election. The term of office of a Supreme Court Justice and a judge of the court of appeals is reduced to two years, from six. Judges of the court of appeals are elected instead of appointed by the Governor, and the names of all candidates for judge of the court of appeals must be placed on the regular ballot with partisan or other designation and the court and the title of the office. The Governor is required to fill any vacancy in office of a judge of the court of appeals by appointing a person of the same political party as the person vacating the office to serve until the election and qualification of a successor. Repeals the Commission on Trial Court Appointments. Judges seeking retention are removed from the list of persons exempt from campaign finance reporting requirements. Conditionally enacted on the state Constitution being amended by a vote of the people at the 2018 general election to repeal the merit selection of justices and judges and provide instead for their election.

[HCR 2030: JUDICIAL ELECTIONS; TERM OF OFFICE](#) - **OPPOSE** The 2018 general election ballot is to carry the question of whether to amend the state Constitution to eliminate the merit selection of justices and judges and provide instead for their election. Superior court judges for all counties, instead of only those with a population of less than 250,000 persons, must be elected by the qualified electors of their counties at the general election. The term of office of a judge of the superior court is reduced to two years, from four. Justices of the Supreme Court must be nominated and elected by the qualified electors of the state at large in the same manner as other partisan elections. The term of office of a Supreme Court Justice is reduced to two years, from six. The Governor is required to fill any vacancy in office of a Supreme Court Justice of a judge of the superior court by appointing a person of the same political party as the person vacating the office to

serve until the election and qualification of a successor. Repeals sections of the state Constitution relating to the option of certain counties in selecting judges, establishing the Commission on Trial Court Appointments and relating to retention evaluation of justices and judges. Establishes a 16-member Nonpartisan Commission on Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) Appointments (Nonpartisan Commission) and transfers responsibility for nominating candidates for appointment to the IRC to the Nonpartisan Commission, from the Commission on Appellate Court Appointments.

YOU WILL SEE THAT THIS MENTIONS THE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION. A NOTE HAS BEEN SENT TO COLLEEN MATHIS ASKING ABOUT THIS ONE AND WILL SEND A NOTE OUT WHEN HEAR FROM HER.

HCR2029: Signatures, initiative, referendums, legislative districts.

OPPOSE

WOULD REQUIRE A CERTAIN PERCENTAGE OF SIGNATURES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS TO QUALIFY FOR THE BALLOT. CANNOT JUST GET A LARGER AMOUNT OF SIGNATURES FROM MARICOPA OR PIMA TO FILL OUT THE PETITIONS. Make it harder to get initiatives and referendums to the ballot.

INITIATIVES: FOR STATEWIDE MEASURES, 10 PERCENT OF THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS FROM EACH OF THE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS IN THIS STATE SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO PROPOSE ANY STATEWIDE MEASURE, AND FIFTEEN PERCENT OF THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS FROM EACH OF THE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS IN THIS STATE SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO PROPOSE ANY AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

REFERENDUMS: FOR STATEWIDE MEASURES, FIVE PERCENT OF THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS FROM EACH OF THE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS IN THIS STATE, MAY ORDER THE SUBMISSION TO THE PEOPLE AT THE POLLS OF ANY MEASURE, OR ITEM, SECTION, OR PART OF ANY MEASURE, ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE.