ARIZONA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE
AOMA ANNUAL CONVENTION
APRIL 2, 2020

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Disclosures:
• None
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What we’ll cover today:
• Where do things stand right now?
• What’s left to be done?
• Looking beyond the 2020 session

First, a little COVID-19 humor ... because we can all use some, right?
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Where do things stand right now?
• The legislative session is not over, it’s on a recess
• They paused on 3/23 due to concerns over the COVID-19 spread
• Only 70 days of session so far, typically they go over 100 days
• Only 59 bills passed (48 signed) out of 1731 introduced this year

• Where do things stand right now? (cont’d)
  • Baseline (“skinny”) State Budget passed and signed
    • $11.8 B in funding (nearly same as 2019) to keep state agencies running
    • Initially funds state's response to COVID-19 with a $50 M package
    • Governor has discretion to spend on eviction prevention, non-profits and food banks
    • Also relaxes work requirements for unemployment benefits
    • Passed on last day before recess, strong bipartisan voting
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• Where do things stand right now? (cont’d)
  • Bills that have already passed and been signed into law
    • SB 1523 (and HB 2764) – mental health omnibus legislation
    • HB 2688 (and SB 1247) – AHCCCS rate increase for physicians, dentists, hospitals
    • Otherwise, mostly are board and agency continuation bills

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• Where do things stand right now? (cont’d)
  • Bills that already died
    • HB 2419 – Assistant physician licensing
    • Anti-vaccination bills (HB 2050 and HB 2486)
    • HB 2134 – dentist scope of practice
    • SB 1075 – homeopathic physicians
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• What’s left to be done?
  • Session is supposed to be resumed on April 13, but ...
  • Bills still alive (until we hear otherwise)
    • HB 2260 – Resuscitation care at residential care facilities
    • HB 2529 – Broadens law on non-retaliation against health care workers
    • HB 2532 – Uniform prior authorization form requirement on insurers
    • HB 2538 – Increased penalty for patient assaults on health care workers

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• What’s left to be done? (cont’d)
  • Bills still alive (until we hear otherwise)
    • SB 1152 – Revamps Medical Student Loan Board
    • SB 1324 – Ends Naloxone co-prescribing for hospice and end of life patients
    • SB 1370 – Broadens access to the CSPMP database
    • SB 1397 – Ends pre-existing condition limits in some health plans
    • SB 1439 – Informed consent for breast implant surgery
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• What’s left to be done? (cont’d)
  • Need to do a full budget, go beyond the baseline one passed
  • We were in a surplus situation, now facing a big revenue decline
  • Emergency relief needed for K-12 schools, probably several others
  • Expansion of unemployment benefits possible
  • Could wait a while, do a special session later on

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Looking beyond the 2020 session
• The brave new world of Executive Orders
  • EO 2020-7: Proactive measures
  • EO 2020-10: Delaying elective surgeries
  • EO 2020-13: Enhanced surveillance advisory
  • EO 2020-15: Expansion of telemedicine
  • EO 2020-16: Increasing hospital capacity

• What else is coming to help flatten the curve on COVID-19?
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- The Primary and General Elections will soon be coming
  - The US Presidency – will Arizona stay with Trump or go blue?
  - High stakes, high dollar US Senate contest – McSally vs. Kelly
  - Interesting Congressional contests – CD1 and CD6
  - Legislative races – will House and Senate Democrats gain the majority?
  - Ballot initiatives – only recreational marijuana has the signatures
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Questions??

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