
CONFERENCE LEGISLATIVE REPORT

TO: ARIZONA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
FROM: KATHY HUSSER, LEGISLATIVE CHAIR 2017
SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE REPORT
DATE: 10/25/17

LEGISLATIVE REPORT OCTOBER 2017

Kathy Husser, Legislative Committee Chair, will step down from this role after conference. Erin MacFarlane, an Administrator for the Maricopa County Library District, has agreed to assume the responsibility of Legislative Chair the AzLA for 2018. Erin has been a member of the committee for two years, helped facilitate advocacy campaigns, and is also well trained on the software system ENGAGE used by ALA and AzLA.

AzLA Lobbyist Jessica Rainbow of Pivotal Policy Consulting, Erin MacFarlane, Incoming President Gina Macaluso, and Kathy Husser met on August 22nd to discuss 2018 legislative issues and upcoming bills for the 54th session. Arizona State Librarian, Holly Henley gave feedback to Kathy via a phone conference for the upcoming year stressing the need for AzLA to sponsor the Legislative Chair's trip to NLLD in Washington D.C. next May. From the State Library's perspective, there are no upcoming legislative issues that create any concern at this time.

Notable Legislation for AzLA

HB 2369- Repeal; State Boards & Committees (Rep. Shope)

This bill repeals the advisory board of the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records, along with several other boards and commissions as well as makes numerous technical changes. This is a bill backed by the Governor's office to shrink and streamline government. The Governor signed the bill on May 19.

SB 1243- Misconduct Involving Weapons; Public Places (Sen. Kavanagh)

This bill would remove the violation of misconduct involving weapons related to carrying concealed weapons into public buildings. SB1243 would allow persons carrying a firearm with a valid concealed weapons permit into public buildings (all public libraries) and events, unless the building is a "secured facility" with screening equipment and security personnel. AzLA along with coalition members of the counties and cities were able to hold key Republican members in the Senate (Brophy McGee, Pratt and Worsely) from supporting the bill. After SB 1243 passed the Senate Government committee, the bill never made it to the Senate floor for a full vote.

Items of Interest

Beyond controversial bills this session, several lawmakers have already announced their plans to move on and bid for higher office in the upcoming 2018 election. These moves have a domino effect, resulting in other lawmakers seeking to fill seats that look to be vacated.

National Library Legislative Days

ALA National Library Legislative Days (NLLD) will be held May 7th and 8th, in Washington D.C. next year. One citizen-advocate (sponsored by the Maricopa County Library Directors Council) and an AzLA representative will travel for an intense two-day round robin of meetings and greetings to promote the ALA agenda items and Arizona funding issues.

The AzLA Regional Representatives are members of the Legislative Committee along with AzLA incoming President Gina Macaluso, former President Sandy Edwards, Erin MacFarlane, Debe Moreno (Chandler Public Library), Wayne Wheeler (Pima County) and Coni Weatherford (Pima County Library.) Erin will include the committee members in correspondence when the session begins and as new issues arise.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Husser
2017 AzLA Legislative Committee Chair