

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ACTION ITEM: UPDATE ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION AND BUDGET

ISSUE: The Board is provided an update on proposed legislation, legislative activities and the status of budget discussions.

BACKGROUND:

- The First Regular Session of the 48th Legislature convened January 8, 2007. Legislation introduced this session may affect resources, operations, programming, and other aspects of the Arizona University System.
- The universities' budget requests constitute the majority of the System's legislative agenda for the 2007 legislative session. However, certain legislation introduced this session may affect resources, operations, programming, and other aspects of the Arizona university system. Budget negotiations continue in the Senate and the House.
- The Legislative Affairs Committee (LAC) last met on Monday, February 26, 2007. The Committee concurred with the positions recommended by the Government Affairs Officers as outlined in the list of proposed legislation on pages 2 through 15.

DISCUSSION:

Information regarding the status of particular legislation and budget discussions will be shared with the Board at the Board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

This update is provided for the Board's information. The Board may wish to provide additional guidance on any of the issues raised during this discussion.

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**Bills Affecting Arizona's Public Universities as of Feb 26
 48th Legislature, First Regular Session (2007)**

Bills that would help the university system; favorably impact students, faculty, or other employees; or enhance the ability of the Board and the universities to carry out their missions and roles effectively:

<p>HB 2021</p>	<p>COUNTY FORMATION; TECHNICAL CORRECTION NOW: HEALTH SCIENCES STUDENTS; FINGERPRINTING (Rep. McClure) Allows programs containing clinical training in health care facilities to require a person to obtain a valid fingerprint clearance card as a condition of acceptance as a health sciences student or as a condition of employment as a clinical assistant.</p>	<p>4/17 Awaiting Senate 3rd Read.</p>
<p>HB 2146</p>	<p>APPROPRIATION; RETIREMENT SYSTEM; BURKE LITIGATION (Rep. McClure, Rep. Crandall) Appropriates \$5.2 million from the state General fund in FY07 to ASRS for attorney fees and costs incurred on behalf of plan employers in the <i>Burke</i> class action lawsuit. Monies would provide reimbursement to employers who have already paid the court-ordered attorney fees and costs and are entitled to this refund. The bill contains an emergency clause.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>HB 2169</p>	<p>APPROPRIATION; UNIVERSITY STUDENT AID (Rep. Miranda, Rep. Ableser, Rep. Alvarez, Rep. Rios) Appropriates \$5 million from the General fund in FY08 to AFAT.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>HB 2192</p>	<p>ASRS; POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLARS; ELIGIBILITY (Rep. Konopnicki) Renders postdoctoral scholars employed at state universities ineligible for ASRS membership.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled. (see SB 1556)</p>
<p>HB 2701</p>	<p>ARIZONA TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY FUND (Rep. Konopnicki, et al) Appropriates \$35 million from the State General Fund in FY 2007-08 to the Arizona 21st Century Competitive Initiative Fund (Fund), and appropriates the funds to the Commerce and Economic Development Commission for uses established by law for the Fund.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>

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Bills that would help the university system...continued:

<p>SB 1017</p>	<p>TUITION WAIVERS; PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS (Sen. Waring) Expands the tuition scholarship currently available to National Guard members who receive a purple heart after 9/11/01 or former Guard members who were medically discharged to include eligibility for scholarships at private universities and to extend the program to recipients of the Purple Heart from any branch of the armed forces. The new program, which self-repeals on July 1, 2017, is administered by the Dept of Veterans' Services. The bill contains an appropriation of \$914,000 to fund the program.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>SB 1137</p>	<p>APPROPRIATION; UNIVERSITY STUDENT AID (Sen. Miranda, Rep. Miranda, Sen. Garcia, Sen. Hale, Sen. Landrum Taylor, Sen. Rios, Sen. Soltero) Appropriates \$5 million from the General fund in FY08 to AFAT. Amended: increased to a \$6.3 million appropriation.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>SB 1373</p>	<p>FINANCIAL AID TRUST FUND; APPROPRIATION (Sen. Garcia, Sen. Aguirre, Sen. Miranda) Appropriates \$6.3 million from the General fund in FY08 to AFAT.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>SB 1398</p>	<p>APPROPRIATIONS; GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION (Sen. Aboud, Sen. Arzberger, Sen. Burton Cahill, Sen. Hale) Appropriates \$3 million from the General fund in FY08 to AHCCCS to expand medical residency programs to be matched by \$5.9 million in federal monies.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>SB 1406</p>	<p>APPROPRIATIONS; UNIVERSITY MEDICAL PROGRAMS (Sen. Garcia, Sen. Aguirre, Sen. Miranda, Sen. Rios) Appropriates \$25 million from the General fund in FY08 for expansion of the Phoenix biomedical campus.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>SB 1417</p>	<p>APPROPRIATIONS; MATH & SCIENCE INITIATIVES (Sen. Aguirre, Sen. McCune Davis, Sen. Miranda, Sen. Rios, Sen. Soltero) Appropriates \$15.5 million from the General fund in FY08 for math and science initiatives, of which \$3 million is appropriated to ABOR for math & science teacher incentives.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>SB 1448</p>	<p>APPROPRIATION; UNIVERSITIES; RETENTION (Sen. Aboud, Rep. Ableser, Sen. Aguirre, Sen. Burton Cahill, Sen. Miranda, Sen. Pesquiera, Sen. Rios) Appropriates \$29.8 million to ABOR for student and faculty retention initiatives.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>SB 1492</p>	<p>LOTTERY PROCEEDS; UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS (Sen. Hale, et al) Expands uses for annual lottery proceeds to include \$10 million for university tuition scholarships through ABOR.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>

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Bills that would help the university system...continued:

<p>SB 1556</p>	<p>FIRE DISTRICTS; NONCONTIGUOUS COUNTY AREAS NOW: ASRS; POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLARS; ELIGIBILITY (Rep. Tibshraeny) Renders postdoctoral scholars employed at state universities ineligible for ASRS membership.</p>	<p>4/17 sponsor concurred with amendments. Awaits Senate Final Reading.</p>
<p>SB 1558</p>	<p>APPROPRIATIONS; UNIVERSITY MEDICAL PROGRAMS (Sen. Allen, Rep. Burns, Rep. Crandall, Rep. Gallardo, Rep. Hershberger, Rep. Konopnicki, Rep. Lopes, Rep. Lopez, Rep. Mason, Rep. McClure, Rep. Miranda, Rep. Nelson, Rep. Reagan, Rep. Schapira, Rep. Sinema, Rep. Tobin, Sen. Aboud, Sen. Aguirre, Sen. Arzberger, Sen. Bee, Sen. Blendu, Sen. Burton Cahill, Sen. Flake, Sen. Garcia, Sen. Hale, Sen. Landrum Taylor, Sen. Leff, Sen. O'Halleran, Sen. Rios, Sen. Waring) Appropriates \$25 million from the General fund in FY08 for expansion of the Phoenix biomedical campus.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>SB 1579</p>	<p>GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION; APPROPRIATION (Sen. Pesquiera, et al) Appropriates \$3 million from the General fund in FY08 to DHS to expand medical residency programs.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>

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Bills that would be potentially detrimental to the university system; adversely impact students, faculty or other employees; or adversely impact the ability of the Board and the universities to carry out their missions and roles effectively:

HB 2292	EASTERN ARIZONA COLLEGE (Rep. Konopnicki, Sen. Flake) Allows EAC to offer 4-year baccalaureate degrees beginning in FY09. Requires EAC to submit a budget by Oct 1, 2007, that estimates the FTSE counts for 300 and 400 level courses that will be offered. FTSE counts for upper division are determined by dividing the enrolled credit hours by 24, rather than by 30 as current law for lower division. Also sets differential state aid amounts per FTSE for vocational, 100 and 200 level courses (\$2,200) and 300 and 400 level courses (\$5,564). Requires these amounts to be adjusted annually by the CPI. Prohibits state aid for dual enrollment for "nonacademic" classes. Tuition amounts must be less than those at state universities. Restricts EAC's property tax rate to \$1.00 for FY08 through FY13. These property tax revenues can only be spent on capital. Gives the Graham County Community College District until June 30, 2012, to decide whether to continue as a community college district and discontinue the tax levy or to dissolve the district and transfer governance authority to ABOR. Establishes a base amount of operating and capital state aid appropriation of \$16.9 million until the new formulas exceed that amount. The bill is silent on equalization aid. The bill contains blank appropriations for supplemental funding and campus housing.	No hearing scheduled.
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Bills that would be potentially detrimental to the university system...continued:

<p>HB 2471</p>	<p>PUBLIC BENEFITS; ELIGIBILITY (Rep. Pearce, Rep. Groe, Rep. Murphy, Sen. Johnson) After the effective date of the legislation, children born in Arizona to illegal aliens are not eligible for public benefits, defined to include public education, welfare, or health care.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>HCR 2025</p>	<p>STATE APPROPRIATION LIMIT; REDUCTION (Rep. Pearce, et al) Proposes a constitutional amendment, to be carried on the 2008 general election ballot, to reduce the limit on state expenditures to 6.4% (from 7.0%) of the total personal income for the state.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>SB 1160</p>	<p>UNIVERSITIES; TUITION ADJUSTMENTS; INFLATION (Sen. Garcia, Rep. Ableser, Rep. Lopez, Sen. Aguirre, Sen. Harper, Sen. Johnson, Sen. Landrum Taylor, Sen. Miranda, Sen. Rios, Sen. Soltero, Sen. Waring) Restricts the authority of ABOR to raise tuition of existing students at state universities for the following academic year to no more than an amount equal to the annual change in HEPI. Gives ABOR authority to make further tuition adjustments to nonresident students, newly enrolled students and existing students who either change tuition categories, abandon a previously declared program of study or who have been enrolled full-time for 6 years or more.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>SB 1542</p>	<p>TAX CREDITS; STAN ACCOUNTS. (Sen. Verschoor) NOW: TEACHERS; INSTRUCTORS; PROHIBITED ACTIVITY A person who is acting as an agent for a school district, university or community college or a person who is "working in an official instructional capacity" shall not support, oppose or endorse any candidate for elected office, any proposed legislation or rule, any litigation or any position in a "social, political or cultural issue that is a matter of partisan controversy." A violation is considered an unprofessional act subject to suit by the AG or County Attorney and a \$500 fine.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>SB 1612</p>	<p>TEACHERS; INSTRUCTORS; PROHIBITED ACTIVITY (Sen. Verschoor, Sen. Linda Gray, Sen. Johnson) A person who is acting as an agent for a school district, university or community college or a person who is "working in an official instructional capacity" shall not support, oppose or endorse any candidate for elected office, any proposed legislation or rule, any litigation or any position in a "social, political or cultural issue that is a matter of partisan controversy." A violation is considered an unprofessional act subject to suit by the AG or County Attorney and a \$500 fine.</p>	<p>Failed Senate K-12 (3-5).</p>

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Bills that would affect the university system, but require additional discussion before a position is adopted; or bills that may require a position of neutrality at this time:

<p>HB 2018</p>	<p>TOWN OFFICERS; TECHNICAL CORRECTION NOW: RESERVISTS; TUITION WAIVERS; SPOUSES (Rep. Nelson, Rep. Jerry Weiers, Sen. Blendu) Extends the tuition scholarship currently available to National Guard members who received a purple heart after 9/11/01 or former Guard members who were medically discharged to included Arizona residents in military reserves who meet the same criteria. Additionally allows guard and reservist scholarships to be transferred to a spouse.</p>	<p>Awaiting Senate Rules & Caucus.</p>
<p>HB 2094</p>	<p>NATIONAL GUARD; TUITION WAIVERS; SPOUSES (Rep. Nelson, Rep. Jerry Weiers, Sen. Blendu) Allows the tuition scholarship currently available to National Guard members who received a purple heart after 9/11/01 or former Guard members who were medically discharged to be transferred to that person's spouse.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>HB 2190</p>	<p>TAX CREDIT; EDUCATION LEADERSHIP TRAINING (Rep. Konopnicki) Creates a tax credit of up to \$200 for a single person or a head of household or up to \$400 for a married couple filing jointly for the amount paid or donated to an education leadership training program offered by a nonprofit group and approved by the Arizona K-12 Center at Northern Arizona University (NAU).</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>

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Bills that would affect the university system, but require additional discussion...continued:

<p>HB 2206</p>	<p>TEACHER SHORTAGE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM (Rep. Schapira, Rep. Ableser, Rep. Adams, Rep. Alvarez, Rep. Anderson, Rep. Burns, Sen. Johnson, Sen. McCune Davis, et al) Establishes a Teacher Shortage Student Loan Program to be administered by ABOR. Gives ABOR the authority to grant up to 300 loans annually, subject to appropriation, to defray in-state tuition and fees for resident students pursuing a teaching degree at one of the state's public universities and to students who are preparing to pursue a teaching degree after transferring to a university from a community college in the state. Requires ABOR to set the interest rate on the loans, establish repayment procedures, and collect loans in default. Allows loan contracts to include a provision by which ABOR will compensate loan recipients who serve as teachers in a geographic area experiencing a shortage for their service or for other service in an amount to be credited against the outstanding loan balance. Appropriates \$1.5 million from the General fund in FY08, and establishes a program sunset in July 2017. Amended: States ABOR may grant loans to students who are enrolled in a post-baccalaureate teaching certificate program at a university or a community college district. Extends the criteria under which recipients are entitled to compensation for the repayment of the loan to include those who are willing to serve as mathematics, science or special education teachers. Enumerates repayment provisions. Entitles eligible recipients in the Program to receive a cash bonus, not to exceed \$5,000, in their third consecutive year of employment at a school district or charter school where at least 70% of the student population is from families whose household income does not exceed 100% of the federal poverty guidelines. Clarifies loan monies may only be used to cover tuition and fees. Increases the appropriation from \$1,500,000 to \$3,500,000. Extends the program to students enrolled at private institutions.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>HB 2208</p>	<p>OPEN MEETINGS; MINUTES; REDACTED INFORMATION (Rep. Adams) NOW: OPEN MEETINGS; MINUTES; RECORDINGS No longer impacts the university system.</p>	<p>No longer impacts the University System.</p>

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Bills that would affect the university system, but require additional discussion...continued:

<p>HB 2221</p>	<p>APPROPRIATION CANCER RESEARCH; MATCHING FUNDS (Rep. McClure, et al) Appropriates \$15 million dollars to the Department of Health Services for distribution to cancer research programs in Maricopa and Pima county that are designated by National Cancer Institute to perform treatment, research, education and prevention of cancers unique to women. The bill requires that an additional \$30 million be raised in private funds by FY09. Amended: clarifies money raised is to be used for in-state research.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>HB 2245</p>	<p>COLLEGE COURSES; HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT NOW: INTERNATIONAL STUDIES; SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL STUDIES; SCHOOLS (Rep. Anderson, et al) Requires the State Board of Education, subject to legislative appropriation, to create three schools of international studies and seven international studies high schools to prepare pupils for international business or service, with emphasis on foreign language, world history and science, technology, engineering and mathematics skills..</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>HB 2266</p>	<p>EDUCATION VOUCHER MANAGERS (Rep. Biggs and Rep. Bradley) The Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) must appoint an educational voucher manager for each state university, and the community colleges must cooperatively appoint 2 educational voucher managers to assist foster youth and former foster youth participating in the independent living program. Educational voucher managers will assist the youths with college admissions, financial aid and employment, housing, and other available services. Appropriates \$500,000 from the general fund to ABOR in FY 2007-08 for implementation. ABOR must distribute a portion of the monies to community college districts. Amended: places program under the Postsecondary Education Commission; \$100,000 appropriation.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>

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Bills that would affect the university system, but require additional discussion...continued:

<p>HB 2296</p>	<p>ARIZONA WORK-STUDY PROGRAM (Rep. Konopnicki, Rep. Brown, Rep. Burns, Rep. Mason, Rep. Miranda) Appropriates \$5 million and establishes an Arizona Work-Study Program administered by the Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education. Students at state universities, community colleges, and private postsecondary institutions are eligible to participate. Requires the Postsecondary Commission to establish a work-study advisory committee to assist in the development and administration of the program. Expenditures shall fund 50% of each student employee salary. The Commission is to ensure, to the extent possible, that an equal number of public and private employers participate. Restricts any participating employer to no more than 10% of the appropriated monies and no more than 15% of the participating students. Caps administrative recovery costs at 5%. Requires that at least 75% of the monies distributed are based on need. Program monies are to be used to supplement and not supplant classified positions. Amended: technical/clarifying amendments.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>HB 2307</p>	<p>PRIME CONTRACTING DEDUCTION; UNIVERSITY IMPROVEMENTS (Rep. Burns, Rep. Ableser, Rep. Alvarez, Rep. Chad Campbell, Rep. Hershberger, Rep. Konopnicki, Rep. Lopez, Rep. Reagan, Rep. Schapira) Adds a deduction from the state prime contracting tax base computation for gross sales and income received from a contract entered into with city for construction or infrastructure improvements at any campus of a state university. Amended: Program sunset December 31, 2012.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>HB 2317</p>	<p>STATE BOARD; COMMUNITY COLLEGES (Rep. Burns, Rep. Hershberger, Rep. Konopnicki, Sen. O'Halleran) NOW: COMMUNITY COLLEGES; LEGAL OPINIONS; TIMELINES Increases the timeframe the attorney general has to concur, revise or decline to review a county attorney's opinion to a community college district from 60 to 90 days or the opinion must be deemed affirmed.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>

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Bills that would affect the university system, but require additional discussion...continued:

<p>HB 2331</p>	<p>TRIBAL LANDS TEACHER STUDENT LOANS (Rep. Tom, et al) Creates the Tribal Lands Teacher Student Loan Program to defray in-state tuition and mandatory education fees for Arizona resident students pursuing a teaching degree and who agree to teach in a school on tribal lands within the state. Once recipients begin teaching, their compensation may be credited against outstanding loan amounts and accrued interest. Contains blank general fund appropriation in FY08. Amended: Provides that a student may be eligible for a grant under the Program if the student is enrolled in a post baccalaureate teaching certificate program at a university under the jurisdiction of ABOR or a community college in this state. Specifies the loan is not subject to repayment until after the recipient graduates. Sets forth that should a recipient withdraw or be dismissed from the Program, the recipient shall repay the loan within the number of years that is equivalent to the number of years the recipient participated in the program. Clarifies costs are tuition and fees.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>HB 2381</p>	<p>STATE MUSEUM; U OF A (Rep. Anderson) NOW: ACCOMMODATION SCHOOLS; SCHOOL BOARD; POWERS. No longer impacts the university system.</p>	<p>No longer impacts the University System.</p>
<p>HB 2398</p>	<p>COLLEGE SAVINGS PLANS; INCOME TAX (Rep. Yarbrough, Rep. Anderson, Rep. Driggs, Rep. Murphy, Rep. Stump) In tax year 2007, establishes a personal tax deduction for contributions to an Arizona college savings plan that were not deducted to calculate federal adjusted gross income. Deductions may be up to \$2,000 for a single person or head of household, and up to \$4,000 for a married couple filing jointly. Amended: Phases in deduction over 4 years.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>HB 2417</p>	<p>ELECTION INFORMATION; UNIVERSITY CENTER (Rep. Gallardo, et al) Requires ABOR to establish an election information center at ASU to provide access to data on elections, redistricting and state demographics.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>

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Bills that would affect the university system, but require additional discussion...continued:

<p>HB 2468</p>	<p>SCHOOLS; FLAG SIZE (Rep. Pearce, Sen. Chuck Gray, Sen. Linda Gray) Modifies the statute requiring schools to display a flag by requiring that the flag may not be made of paper and must be of sufficient size to be visible and easily recognizable. The 2 feet by 3 feet minimum size applies upon replacement of a classroom's US flag.</p>	<p>4/12 transmitted to Governor.</p>
<p>HB 2497</p>	<p>PUBLIC BUILDINGS; ENERGY SAVINGS GOALS (Rep. Mason; Rep. Ableser, Rep. Burns, Rep. Clark, Rep. Hershberger, Rep. Konopnicki, Rep. Nelson, Rep. Reagan, Rep. Schapira, Sen. Aboud, Sen. Bee, Sen. Flake, Sen. O'Halleran) Requires the Department of Administration, the ABOR, and the Department of Transportation to reduce energy use in their building systems by 20% per square foot of floor area by July 1, 2015. Provides that community college districts shall reduce energy use by 15% per square foot of floor area by July 1, 2011 and 20% per square foot of floor area by July 1, 2015. Redirects authority for technical assistance from the State Energy Office to the Department of Commerce Energy Office. Requires school districts, community college districts and universities to procure energy efficient products which are certified as energy star or certified under the federal energy management program in all available categories. Amended: removes community colleges from the statute.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>HB 2510</p>	<p>TUITION WAIVERS; COMBAT DEATHS (Rep. Murphy, et al) Same subject striker adopted. Revises current tuition waiver statute to include children and spouses of a member of the armed forces who were a state resident or stationed in Arizona and who were killed in the line of duty. Further amends statute to require that all federal aid and benefits shall be applied before the tuition waiver is granted.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>HB 2537</p>	<p>ANIMAL TESTING; PROHIBITION (Rep. Ableser, et al) Prohibits a manufacturer or contract testing facility from using "traditional" animal test methods when alternative test methods have been scientifically validated and recommended by appropriate agencies.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>HB 2568</p>	<p>APPROPRIATION; UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA SOUTH (Rep. Burns, Rep. Alvarez, Sen. Arzberger, Sen. Bee) Appropriates \$500,000 from the General fund in FY08 to the University of Arizona South for classes to be offered in Santa Cruz County.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>

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Bills that would affect the university system, but require additional discussion...continued:

<p>HB 2606</p>	<p>STATE BUILDINGS; ENERGY CONSERVATION (Rep. Chad Campbell, et al) Requires the ADOA, ABOR, and ADOT to reduce energy use in public buildings that they administer by 30 percent per square foot of floor area on or before July 1, 2020. Requires that all state agencies, universities, school districts and community college districts purchase at least ten percent of their energy requirements in public buildings that they administer from green sources by July 1, 2012. Mandates all new or leased state buildings to conform to the LEED Building Rating System. Requires the Department of Commerce Energy Office to monitor the USGBC for changes to the rating system that impact state buildings. Removes references to the State Energy Office and replaces with the Department of Commerce Energy Office.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>HB 2724</p>	<p>INCOME BASED TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIPS (Rep. Ableser, et al) Appropriates \$25 million from the general fund in fiscal 07-08 for implementation of tuition waiver scholarship program for persons who graduate from a public or private Arizona high school and whose family makes up to 400% of federal poverty level.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>HB 2742</p>	<p>SCHOOLS; TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS GRANTS (Rep. Anderson, et al) Establishes the Instructional Technology Systems Grants Fund consisting of legislative appropriations, gifts, grants and donations to be administered by the Arizona Department of Education. School districts and charter schools must use grant monies to significantly increase academic performance with specified uses of these monies. Additionally, \$10,000,000 is appropriated from the state General Fund in FY 2007-08 to the ADE to provide instructional technology systems grants to schools.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>HB 2770</p>	<p>APPROPRIATIONS; REGENERATIVE TISSUE; RESEARCH (Rep. Stump, Rep. Bradley, Rep. Robson, Sen. Bee) Appropriates \$6 million from the general fund in each of the next five fiscal years to DHS to fund a repository to store human stem cells of non-embryonic origin and to finance research in regenerative medicine using non-embryonic stem cells.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>

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Bills that would affect the university system, but require additional discussion...continued:

<p>HB 2771</p>	<p>PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION STANDARDS BOARD (Rep. Hershberger, Sen. O'Halleran) A Professional Education Standards Board (14 members all appointed by the governor) assumes duties from the Board of Education regarding teacher certification, standards of conduct, professional proficiency and discipline. Effective Jan. 14, 2008.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>HCR 2029</p>	<p>ARIZONA DREAM ACT (Rep. Lujan, et al) Proposes amendments to statute, to be carried on the 2008 general election ballot, to delete language stating that illegal aliens are not entitled to be classified as in-state residents for purposes of tuition at state universities or county resident for purposes of tuition at community colleges. Explicitly states that, regardless of immigration status, a person is eligible for in-state or in-county tuition if the person is otherwise eligible and that immigration status shall not be a factor in award of financial aid or scholarships.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>SB 1013</p>	<p>NATIONAL GUARD; TUITION WAIVERS; SPOUSES (Sen. Waring) Allows the tuition scholarship currently available to National Guard members who receive a purple heart after 9/11/01 or former Guard members who were medically discharged to be transferred to that person's spouse.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>SB 1104</p>	<p>INFORMATION SECURITY AND PRIVACY OFFICE (Sen. Burns, Rep. Konopnicki, Sen. Arzberger, Sen. Huppenthal) Establishes a statewide Information Security and Privacy Office within the Government Information Technology Agency (GITA) to serve as the strategic planning, facilitation and coordination office for information technology security in the state. Requires the office to develop, implement and maintain and ensure compliance by each budget unit with a coordinated statewide assurance plan for information security and privacy. Mandates that the office direct information security and privacy protection compliance reviews, identify risks, and monitor compliance with each budget unit. Requires budget units to report security incidents to the office. Amended: Includes \$1.8 million appropriation.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>

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Bills that would affect the university system, but require additional discussion...continued:

<p>SB 1237</p>	<p>OPEN MEETINGS; MINUTES; RECORDINGS (Sen. Chuck Gray, Sen. Harper) Waives requirement that a municipality with a population greater than 2,500 people post a transcript of its council meetings if a recording of the meetings is posted to the municipality's website. Provides that, if approved by the council, such recordings may serve as the official minutes of the meeting.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>SB 1322</p>	<p>DPS EMPLOYEES; UNIVERSITY TUITION WAIVERS (Sen. O'Halleran, Sen. Aboud, Sen. Verschoor) The Arizona Board of Regents must provide Department of Public Safety employees pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees with tuition waivers at state universities.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>SB 1363</p>	<p>COMMUNITY COLLEGES; INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL; MORATORIUM (Sen. Linda Gray) For a period of one year from the effective date of this act a community college district shall not spend public money for employees or officers to travel outside the US. Session law only; statute is not amended.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>SB 1454</p>	<p>PUBLICLY FINANCED BUILDINGS; ENERGY STANDARDS (Sen. Aboud, et al) Major facility projects of public agencies that have not entered the design phase before October 1, 2007 must be designed, constructed and certified to at least the leadership in energy and environmental design silver standard. Any other major facility projects that receive funding from taxes and that have not entered the design phase before January 1, 2008 must also be certified to at least the silver standard. The Department of Commerce Energy Office is charged with enforcement, and with monitoring and reporting ongoing operating savings. The Office must establish a Green Buildings Advisory Committee to provide advice on implementation.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>

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Bills that would affect the university system, but require additional discussion...continued:

<p>SB 1490</p>	<p>TEACHER SHORTAGE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM (Sen. Burton Cahill, et al) Establishes a Teacher Shortage Student Loan Program to be administered by ABOR. Gives ABOR the authority to grant up to 300 loans annually, subject to appropriation, to defray in-state tuition and fees for resident students pursuing a teaching degree at one of the state's public universities and to students who are preparing to pursue a teaching degree after transferring to a university from a community college in the state. Requires ABOR to set the interest rate on the loans, establish repayment procedures, and collect loans in default. Allows loan contracts to include a provision by which ABOR will compensate loan recipients who serve as teachers in a geographic area experiencing a shortage for their service or for other service in an amount to be credited against the outstanding loan balance. Appropriates \$1.5 million from the General fund in FY08, and establishes a program sunset in July 2017.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>SB 1568</p>	<p>TEACHER COMPENSATION; SCHOOLS (Sen. O'Halleran, Rep. Mason, Sen. Arzberger) The minimum annual salary for full-time teachers employed by a school district is \$33,000. Appropriations include \$3 million for program development; \$4 million for mentor training; \$50 million for teacher salaries, and \$10 million for math and science teacher salaries.</p>	<p>No hearing scheduled.</p>
<p>SB 1611</p>	<p>POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONAL LOAN COMMISSION (Sen. Verschoor, Rep. Reagan, Rep. Stump, Rep. Jerry Weiers, Sen. Bee, Sen. Linda Gray, Sen. Harper, Sen. Waring) Establishes the nine-member Postsecondary Institution Loan Commission to request annual proposals to borrow money and issue tax-exempt bonds, lend money and issue scholarships to postsecondary students and purchase existing student loans on the secondary market. Establishes the nine-member Postsecondary Institution Loan Commission to request annual proposals to borrow money and issue tax-exempt bonds, lend money and issue scholarships to postsecondary students and purchase existing student loans on the secondary market. Rules: proper for consideration with recommended floor amendment.</p>	<p>3/8 Failed Senate 14-14. Motion to reconsider passed. Awaiting reconsideration.</p>