



Arizona Pest Professional Organization Legislative Update February 24, 2017

Dear Supporter:

Day 47 - We are just a few days away from our halfway point in Session. Legislative Session is supposed to last 100 days, adjourning right around the time we file our taxes. Rules do allow for extending the session if needed like we have done virtually every year in recent memory. Usually the session is extended past the 100 days since, more often than not, key decisions that may affect our state (i.e. the state budget) come late in the session.

The first bill of 2017 was signed into law this week. [HB2088 \(incorporation; urbanized areas\)](#) is aimed at resolving an ongoing battle in Pinal County over the right to incorporate urbanized areas, and is specifically aimed at allowing for the incorporation of San Tan Valley. The unincorporated area in Pinal County has grown to a population of more than 100,000 persons, dwarfing the neighboring town of Florence that has historically vetoed the incorporation. Current state law requires any community, that wishes to vote on incorporation, to receive permission from any city or town within six miles of the future city or town's boundaries. In the case of Florence/ San Tan Valley, Florence has vetoed all past attempts by San Tan Valley to incorporate. HB2088 requires a county board of supervisors to proceed with the incorporation of an area if the area proposed for incorporation has a population of at least 15,000 persons, and is larger than the population of the city or town that opposes the proposed incorporation.

[HB2404 \(initiatives; circulators; signature collection; contests\)](#) passed the full House of Representatives this week on party lines. Perhaps one of the most controversial bills of the year, HB2404 creates new registration requirements for initiative petition signature gatherers and prohibits a person from paying or receiving money based upon the number of signatures collected. Many view the recent minimum wage initiative as the primary cause to the proposed bill.

AZPPO's proactive bill, [SB1121 \(certified qualified applicators; fingerprinting requirement\)](#), has been assigned to the House Land, Agriculture, and Rural Affairs Committee and is scheduled to be heard March 3rd. At this point I have not heard any concerns raised by the committee members. SB1121 will require fingerprint clearance cards for all qualified applicators.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Have a great week.

Regards,

Courtney Gilstrap LeVinus
Capitol Consulting, LLC
