



## Agenda

- Why Advocacy Matters
- Bill Process Review
- Advocacy Tips

## Arizona State Legislature



- 1,000 to 1,500 bills introduced each year
- 300 to 450 bills become law

## HB 2083 and 2085

2 bills would requires state agencies purchase at least 10 percent of their energy from "green sources" and all existing state buildings that are more than 50,000 square feet must conform to LEED building standards. All new or leased state buildings must conform to the LEED green building rating system.

## HB 2243



The AZ Commerce Authority may award grants from the Arizona Competes Fund to municipalities to establish a renewable energy incentive district and to defray the costs of issuing solar permits.

## HB 2258



Creates a tax on electricity for a Solar School Grant Program Fund and used to fund grants for school districts for solar education programs in schools that use solar technology.

## HB 2298 and 2816



Municipalities and counties may form improvement districts for the purpose of the acquisition, installation and improvement of energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements and water conservation improvements and water resource management improvements.

## HB 2456



The maximum aggregate amount of solar energy tax credits that may be certified in a calendar year is increased to \$1.25 million, from \$1 million.

## SB 1235



The individual and corporate income tax credits for water conservation systems is extended five years through tax year 2016. Retroactive to January 1, 2012.

## SB 1344



Public service corporations are required to annually report specified information on each energy efficiency program implemented to the Corporation Commission.

## HB 2790



The Corporation Commission is prohibited from requiring a public service corporation to implement any energy efficiency standard unless the standard is "cost-effective" (defined) to the ratepayers.

## How a Bill Becomes a Law



- House of Representatives approval
- Senate approval
- Governor signs

## Advocacy Tips

### Communication Methods

- Email
- Phone calls
- Personal visits
- Letters
  - To editor of local newspapers
  - To Legislator
- Testify before a committee

## Using [www.azleg.gov](http://www.azleg.gov)



## Key Committees



- Senate Economic Development and Jobs Creation
- Senate Natural Resources and Transportation
- Senate Commerce and Energy
- House Environment
- House Energy and Natural Resources

## Advocacy Tips



- Understand Legislators
  - Treat them fairly, honestly and with respect
  - Understand their constraints and tailor your message to address them
- Simple Message
  - Be clear and specific about what you want
  - Maintain on-going relationships in the off-season

## Rep. Ed Ableser



Ed Ableser was born and raised in Los Angeles, attended high school in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and received undergraduate degrees in political science and Chinese from ASU in 2000. He earned a Masters of Counseling degree in 2004 while working as an ASU instructor. Currently, he is working towards a doctoral degree in Public Administration and Justice Studies at ASU.

Ableser has been a school-based mental health counselor since 2002, working with families and troubled youth at two schools in Phoenix. He serves on the board of Kiwanis Club of Tempe and the Boys and Girls Club. From 1998 to 2001, Ableser served as an assistant pastor to the Exchange Tempe Community Church, where he worked with students, families, and Tempe's homeless population. Ableser currently serves as a worship-service producer to the University Presbyterian Church.

In the past year, Ed was elected president of the Diamond Park Homeowners Association and state committeeperson to the Democrat Party. He is an alumnus of the Tempe Chamber of Commerce Leadership program in 2005. In 2004, Mr. Ableser received the City of Tempe Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Award for his work with the homeless and impoverished communities. Ed is dedicated to a life in public service.

## Sen. John McComish



John McComish, a native of Youngstown, Ohio, graduated from Colgate University in 1965. He spent the next 24 years climbing the corporate ladder with several Fortune 500 companies. McComish was named National Sales Manager with Johnson & Johnson at the age of 35.

In 1989, he decided to leave the corporate world, moving to Arizona and opening a bookstore. After 7 successful years as a small business owner, he closed the door of the bookstore and took over as President of the fledgling Ahwatukee Foothills Chamber of commerce in 1996. From that time until his retirement at the end of 2006, the Chamber grew from 64 members to over 650. In addition to his Chamber responsibilities, McComish served on the City of Phoenix Planning Commission and has been Chair of the Ahwatukee Foothills Village Planning Committee. Currently he is a part-time instructor with the Maricopa Community College system.

John McComish and Karen, his wife of 47 years, live in Ahwatukee where she is a retired teacher in the Kyrene School District. They have 2 adult children and 4 grandchildren.

Senator McComish previously served in the House for three terms, where he was elected Majority Whip for the 2007 and 2008 Sessions and Majority Leader for the 2009 and 2010 Sessions. In the Senate, he is currently Chairman of the Banking and Insurance Committee plus he serves on the Finance, the Rules, and the Economic Development and Jobs Creation Committees.

In May, 2011, Senator McComish was recognized by the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce with its inaugural Sentinel Award. The award was for co-sponsoring a number of tax bills that were eventually part of the Arizona Competitiveness Package and also for sponsoring several workers' compensation bills.

The Chamber's Small Business Leadership Council selected the Sentinel Award recipients based on their sponsorship of pro-business legislation, willingness to defeat bills that would adversely impact Arizona businesses and their accessibility to members.

## Sen. Al Melvin



Senator Al Melvin, Republican for District 26, is committed to serving the people of Southern Arizona. As an educator, businessman, and veteran, he is committed to bringing vision, integrity and leadership to the Arizona State Senate.

Originally from Helena, Montana, Al is a graduate of the United States Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, NY; the Naval War College, Newport, RI; and the American Graduate School of International Management, Thunderbird Campus in Glendale, Arizona.

In 1999, after 30 years of reserve military service, Al retired as a Captain, U.S.N.R. One of his last duty assignments was Squadron Commander of MPS 2 at Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean. He had a parallel 35 year career, including 12 years in the Far East, in international trade and ocean transportation, working for three major steamship corporations. Al's U.S.N.R. and merchant marine careers included nine years at sea. He holds an unlimited tonnage Masters license issued by the USCG. Al was an Adjunct Lecturer for the University of Arizona for six years. He also taught at the University of Phoenix and Western International University, specializing in courses in international trade, transportation, logistics and economics. Al also owns a consulting firm, American Quality International Consulting.

## Get Involved



### Central Branch Advocacy Committee Meetings

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month  
(Feb. 15, 2012)  
7:30 – 9 AM

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