

ARIZONA STATE SENATE

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TO: MEMBERS OF THE SENATE
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

DATE: March 26, 2021

SUBJECT: Strike everything amendment to H.B. 2048, relating to southern regional sports authority

Purpose

Establishes the Advisory Committee on the Formation of a Southern Arizona Regional Sports Authority (Advisory Committee) and appropriates \$250,000 from the state General Fund (state GF) in FY 2022 to the Arizona Office of Tourism (AOT) to work with and fund the Advisory Committee.

Background

Interim committees operate between legislative sessions and may be created by legislation or by the President of the Senate (President) or Speaker of the House of Representatives (House), or both ([Legislative Manual](#)).

The Arizona Sports and Tourism Authority (AZSTA) is a corporate and political body formed in any county with a population of more than 2,000,000 persons that has all of the rights, powers and immunities of municipal corporations, including the power of eminent domain. AZSTA has the authority to enter into contracts that are necessary to carry out its duties, including contracts with professional football leagues, nonprofit community-based organizations and intergovernmental agreements (A.R.S. §§ [5-802](#) and [5-804](#)). AZSTA must construct, finance, furnish, maintain, improve, operate and promote the use of a multipurpose facility which includes facilities suitable for certain sporting events (A.R.S. §§ [5-801](#) and [5-807](#)).

The strike-everything amendment to H.B. 2048 appropriates \$250,000 from the state GF in FY 2022 to AOT.

Provisions

1. Establishes the Advisory Committee, consisting of the following members:
 - a) three members of the House, appointed by the Speaker of the House (Speaker);
 - b) three members of the Senate, appointed by the President;
 - c) six public members, three appointed by the Speaker and three appointed by the President, who are knowledgeable about regional sports authorities, economic development and fiscal and other problems that exist or may exist in the future as a result of the development of a regional sports authority; and
 - d) one member who is appointed by the Governor.
2. Prohibits more than two of the three Advisory Committee members from the House and Senate from being of the same political party.

3. Requires the Speaker and the President to each designate one appointed legislative member to serve as Co-chairpersons of the Advisory Committee.
4. Requires the Advisory Committee to research and report on the economic development and fiscal and related impacts of the formation of a southern Arizona regional sports authority.
5. Allows the Advisory Committee, in consultation with AOT, to employ a private group or outside professional to study the economic development and fiscal and other problems that exist or may exist in the future as a result of the development of a regional sports authority.
6. Requires any state agency or political subdivision, on request of the Advisory Committee, to provide the Advisory Committee with its services, equipment, documents, personnel and facilities to the extent possible without cost to the Advisory Committee.
7. Requires the Advisory Committee, by June 30, 2022, to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor, President and Speaker, and provide a copy of the report to the Secretary of State.
8. Specifies that a majority of Advisory Committee members constitutes a quorum.
9. Requires the Advisory Committee to meet at any place deemed necessary or convenient by the Co-chairpersons.
10. Appropriates \$250,000 from the state GF in FY 2022 to AOT to work with the Advisory Committee and fund the necessary costs of the Advisory Committee, including employment to outside professionals.
11. Exempts the appropriation from lapsing.
12. Repeals the Advisory Committee on October 1, 2023.
13. Becomes effective on the general effective date.