



**ARIZONA STATE SENATE**  
*Fifty-Sixth Legislature, Second Regular Session*

FACT SHEET FOR H.B. 2658

pedestrians; congregating; medians; unsafe locations

Purpose

Prohibits pedestrians from congregating or soliciting if the pedestrian is: 1) on a painted or raised traffic island or median; 2) on an exit or entrance ramp or roadway of a controlled access highway; or 3) in an unsafe location where there is not a sidewalk or a safe corridor for pedestrians.

Background

A person commits obstructing a highway or other public thoroughfare if they recklessly interfere with the passage of any highway or public thoroughfare by creating an unreasonable inconvenience or hazard, or by intentionally using a pedestrian signal sign to stop the passage of traffic or to solicit a driver for a donation or business ([A.R.S. § 13-2906](#)).

Unless otherwise provided, failure to adhere to state traffic laws is a civil traffic violation, which carries a civil penalty not to exceed \$250 (A.R.S. §§ [28-121](#) and [28-1598](#)). A civil penalty is also subject to various surcharges totaling 78 percent of the base penalty and \$44 in additional assessments ([A.R.S. Title 12, Chapter 1, Article 1](#)).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Prohibits pedestrians from congregating or soliciting if the pedestrian is:
  - a) on a painted or raised traffic island or median;
  - b) on an exit or entrance ramp or roadway of a controlled access highway; or
  - c) in an unsafe location where there is not a sidewalk or a safe corridor for pedestrians.
2. Stipulates that if a person violates the prohibition on pedestrians congregating on medians or unsafe locations:
  - a) for the first violation, a peace officer may not issue a citation and may only issue a warning;
  - b) for a second violation, the person is responsible for a civil traffic violation; and
  - c) for a third or subsequent violation, the person is guilty of a class 1 misdemeanor.
3. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

House Action

TI	2/7/24	DP	6-3-2-0
3 <sup>rd</sup> Read	2/22/24		35-24-0-0-1

Prepared by Senate Research  
March 11, 2024  
ZD/KK/cs