

# MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

ACLU  
AZ

## A Guide to the Arizona Legislature

### HOW THE ARIZONA LEGISLATURE WORKS



**90**

seats in the Arizona  
Legislature

**30** Legislative Districts  
Each district has **one** senator  
and **two** house members.

**30** Senate Seats

**60** House Seats

TO QUALIFY AS A LEGISLATOR

ONE MUST BE:

- ✓ at least 25 years of age at the time of taking office,
- ✓ resident of the state for the previous three years and a resident of the county for at least one year before election,
- ✓ cannot be employed by the state or any county, city or town. This prohibition does not extend to public school teachers.
- ✓ cannot be under guardianship or convicted of a felony, unless their right to vote has been restored.



# ARIZONA ELECTS **30** STATE SENATORS AND **60** HOUSE MEMBERS.

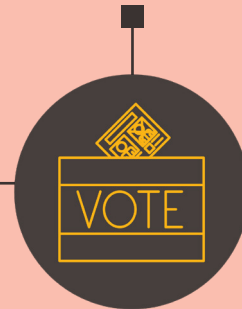
All state representatives are elected **every two years**, and elections happen on **even years**. State representatives may only serve **four consecutive terms** in their office and must wait **one** full term before serving in that same office again.

## LEGISLATORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR:

**DRAFTING AND  
INTRODUCING BILLS**



**VOTING TO  
PASS OR KILL BILLS**



**DEBATING THE  
MERITS OF BILLS**



The Arizona Legislative session starts on the **2nd Monday of January** every year.

The legislature adjourns sine die (i.e., terminates for the year) no later than the Saturday of the week in which the 100th day from the beginning of the regular session falls. The President of the Senate and Speaker of the House may, by rule, extend the session up to seven additional days. Thereafter, the session can only be extended by a majority vote of members present of each house.

# LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY



**ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**CONSTITUENTS**



If your legislators don't hear from you, they assume you approve of their actions.



**FIRST THINGS FIRST,  
FIND YOUR LEGISLATORS**



<https://www.azleg.gov/findmylegislator/>



## WAYS TO CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS



# CALL THEM OR WRITE THEM



### TIP 1

Know your house and senate district and the names of your legislators.



### TIP 2

Plan out what you will say.



### TIP 3

Remember to mention the bill number (if any) and why you are calling or writing.



### TIP 4

Make it short and sweet. Get to your point quickly.



### TIP 5

Tell a personal story they can connect to.



### TIP 6

Problem, solution, action (i.e. "Vote yes on HB xxxx!").

## WAYS TO CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS



### MEET THEM IN PERSON



#### STEP ONE

Schedule your meeting.



#### STEP TWO

Be flexible and patient.



#### STEP THREE

Prepare and educate yourself. Establish clear goals.



#### STEP FOUR

Follow up and say thank you!



### ENGAGE WITH THEM ON SOCIAL MEDIA



#### TIP 1

Follow and comment on your legislator's page.



#### TIP 2

Ask them where they stand on issues.



#### TIP 3

Urge them to support or oppose bills.



#### TIP 4

Share our content on social media @acluaz (Twitter), ACLU of Arizona (Facebook) and tag your legislator.

**CONNECT WITH YOUR LEGISLATORS  
EARLY AND OFTEN!**

# IMPACT YOUR COMMUNITY



**WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR**



**STAY CONNECTED WITH US**

(SUBSCRIBE TO OUR EMAIL LIST & FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA)



**JOIN PEOPLE POWER**

([WWW.PEOPLEPOWER.ORG](http://WWW.PEOPLEPOWER.ORG))



**PUBLIC MARCH OR PROTEST**

## WHY IS SHARING YOUR STORY IMPORTANT?

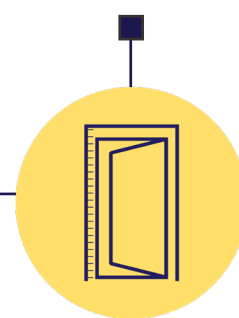
**PERSONAL STORIES**

**MAKE AN IMPACT**



**OPEN THE DOOR**

**TO LASTING CHANGE**



**START IMPORTANT**

**CONVERSATIONS**