

ARIZONA SB 1322 INFORMATION SHEET

ARIZONA SB 1322 is the Expenditure Limitation bill backed by all of the Arizona community colleges. The bill has passed the Senate and the House Government and Higher Education Committee. We ask for your support for SB 1322 and to encourage legislators in the House of Representatives to pass the bill on the floor.

If passed, this bill will:

- avoid further devastating cuts to community colleges and improve the transparency and predictability of the expenditure limitation formula, **while not raising taxes.**
- allow community colleges **to fully support innovative career and technical education (CTE) programs** and respond to business needs through additional funding for all CTE programs under the formula.
- provide other needed relief measures **including engaging in entrepreneurial and commercial activities** (such as contracts with employers to provide training for their workforce without penalty under the law).

Background Information

- A 35 year old expenditure limitation law is keeping community colleges from being entrepreneurial and implementing alternative sources of revenue. The 1980-era law caps how much community colleges can spend, regardless of how much revenue they bring in from multiple sources.
- The expenditure limitation law does not relate to taxes; it relates to spending. In other words, all Arizona community colleges are prevented by this outdated law from spending the tax dollars already collected. Additionally, there are already laws and controls in place for community colleges that limit taxing.
- Community colleges are prevented under this law from spending the money necessary to develop career and technical education (CTE) programs for the 21st century, such as upgrading their facilities and their technology to provide the level of education and training all businesses desire and demand.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Benefits and Opportunities

- Investments in career and technical education (CTE) pay off according to the Department of Education. CTE graduates land jobs and develop careers that pay well for both men and women, including emerging and in-demand fields such as cybersecurity, advanced manufacturing, and all of the growing science, engineering, technology and mathematics (STEM) fields.
- CTE puts students on a direct path to the middle class by giving them the academic, technical, and employability skills they need to enter and advance in their careers. CTE has been proven to be a critical pathway for economic development due to the great demand from students and employers. There are reports all over the U.S. of too few CTE slots for the number of students who want to enroll.
- Community colleges in Arizona need arbitrary barriers removed under this archaic formula that creates unnecessary barriers for colleges to meet the workforce needs of businesses and to better support career and technical education. **SB 1322 provides the needed relief and support for CTE.**

How You Can Help

Tell your elected leaders that you support SB 1322 so that community colleges are not prevented from investing in new entrepreneurial ways to support Arizona businesses and students.

PCC's Media, Government and Community Relations Office can provide more information, including scheduling presentations about this critical legislation supporting community colleges.

Contact Executive Director Libby Howell at 206-4778 or ehowell1@pima.edu.

Note: If you are a PCC employee, please use your personal email address to maintain the separation between your personal, political views and official college business.

Contact information for Southern Arizona Representatives and Senators

House of Representatives

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Rep. Lisa Otondo	District 4	(602) 926-3002	lotondo@azleg.gov
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Senate

Senator Andrea Dalessandro	District 2	(602) 926-5342	adalessandro@azleg.gov
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Senator Steve Smith	District 11	(602) 926-5685	stsmith@azleg.gov
Senator Gail Griffin	District 14	(602) 926-5895	ggriffin@azleg.gov

Letters can also be sent to all of the legislators above at the following address:

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