

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES, ENERGY AND WATER COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AND HOUSE LAND, AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE

Minutes of the Meeting
January 11, 2024

10:00 A.M. or upon adjournment of Senate Natural Resources, Energy and Water and House Natural Resources, Energy and Water Committee of Reference, SHR 1

Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting here:

<https://www.azleg.gov/videoplayer/?clientID=6361162879&eventID=2023011022>

Members Present:

Senator Sine Kerr, Co-Chair
Senator Frank Carroll
Senator Brian Fernandez
Senator David Gowan
Senator Juan Mendez
Senator Thomas T.J. Shope
Senator Priya Sundareshan

Representative Lupe Diaz, Co-Chair
Representative Michael Carbone
Representative David L Cook
Representative Gail Griffin
Representative Consuelo Hernandez
Representative Lydia Hernandez
Representative Michele Peña
Representative Mariana Sandoval
Representative Keith Seaman

Staff:

Rachel Andrews, Senate Natural Resources, Energy and Water Research Analyst
Samuel Rosenberg, Senate Natural Resources, Energy and Water Assistant Research Analyst
Emily Bonner, House Land, Agriculture and Rural Affairs Research Analyst
Blanca Santillan Ramos, House Land, Agriculture and Rural Affairs Assistant Research Analyst

Co-Chair Kerr called the meeting to order at 11:12 a.m. and attendance was taken.

SUNSET REVIEW OF THE ARIZONA COTTON RESEARCH AND PROTECTION COUNCIL

Presentation by the Arizona Cotton Research and Protection Council

Paul Ollerton, Interim Director, Arizona Cotton Research and Protection Council (ACRPC) distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Arizona Cotton Research and Protection Council (ACRPC), Sunset Review 2024" (Attachment A) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Representative Griffin offered comments.

Mr. Ollerton answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Todd Rovey, Chairman, Arizona Cotton Research and Protection Council (ACRPC), continued with the PowerPoint presentation (Attachment A) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Jerry Rovey, Chairman, Arizona Cotton Growers Association, offered comments regarding the Arizona Cotton Research and Protection Council and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Public Testimony

No public testimony took place.

Discussion and Recommendation

No further discussion took place.

Representative Diaz moved that the Senate Natural Resources, Energy and Water Committee of Reference and the House Land, Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee of Reference recommends that the Arizona Cotton Research and Protection Council be continued for 8 years until July 1, 2032. The motion CARRIED by a voice vote.

SUNSET REVIEW OF THE ARIZONA RACING COMMISSION

Presentation by the Arizona Racing Commission

Max Hartgraves, Legislative Liaison, Arizona Department of Gaming, introduced the presentation by the department.

Rudy Casillas, Racing Division Director, Arizona Department of Gaming, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Arizona Racing Commission Continuation" (Attachment B) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

Public Testimony

Stephen Nolan, representing self, offered comments on his personal experiences working in the horse racing industry.

Rory Goree, representing self, offered comments.

Kandace French Contreras, Arizona Racing Commissioner, offered comments in support of the recommendation for the continuation of the Arizona Racing Commission and on her personal experiences with horse racing.

Marvin Fleming, President, Arizona Thoroughbred Breeders Association, offered comments on his personal experiences with breeding racehorses and answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

Mr. Fleming answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Representative Griffin offered comments.

J. Lloyd Yothur, President, Arizona Quarter Racing Association, offered comments on his personal experiences working in the racehorse industry.

Discussion and Recommendation

The Committee offered comments.

Representative Diaz moved that the Senate Natural Resources, Energy and Water Committee of Reference and the House Land, Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee of Reference recommends that the Arizona Racing Commission be continued for 2 years until July 1, 2026 or up to 6 years until July 1, 2030. The motion CARRIED by a voice vote.

Attached is a list noting the individuals who registered their positions on the agenda items (Attachment C).

Attached are forms noting the individuals who submitted a Speaker slip on the agenda items (Attachment D).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brigid Fitzgerald
Committee Secretary

(Audio recordings and attachments are on file in the Secretary of the Senate's Office/Resource Center, Room 115. Audio archives are available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)