



POOL TOGETHER ARIZONA

WHAT IS THE AQUATICS DISTRICT BILL?

The proposed bill adds the designation of Aquatics District to existing Arizona Statutes (A.R.S 48-261) that currently determine and define districts for fire districts, community park maintenance districts, sanitary districts, and hospital districts.

WHY IS LEGISLATION NEEDED?

The Arizona climate is ideal for water recreation, and while community pools are a feature of many urban communities, this is not the case for rural communities. Access to quality aquatics facilities has been identified as one of the top-ranking needs identified by rural community members, yet ongoing maintenance is often cost-prohibitive for any small city or town to sustain. Establishment of a district allows for the sharing of resources across a rural region instead of isolating cost and access to a single community. This is especially important for rural communities outside of large urban metropolitan areas that are otherwise limited to access to such amenities as a result of size, location, financial limitations, or limited access to other government support. The proposed legislation defines district formation, oversight, tax elections, financial requirements, and powers and duties.

WHAT ARE THE LEGISLATIVE OPPORTUNITIES?

Recognizing Aquatics Districts as one of the already recognized special tax districts honors local control by giving Arizonans within a defined district the option to vote on whether to fund the maintenance and operation of an aquatics center through a designated tax. There is no fiscal impact to the state general fund associated with this legislation.



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DOES LEGISLATION LIKE THIS ALREADY EXIST?

Language for special taxing districts already exists in the Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 48, Section 261. This legislation simply adds aquatics districts as an additional option.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THIS BILL?

Establishing regional aquatics districts serves as an innovative approach for creating a funding stream, if desired by the voters, to fund the maintenance of an aquatics facility that will:

- Strengthen community image and sense of pride;
- Support economic development;
- Improve community safety;
- Promote health and well-being;
- Provide recreational experiences for all ages, and
- Improve the overall quality of life for rural Arizonans.

Rural recreation represents one of the fastest growing opportunities for rural economic development. Recreation amenities, such as aquatics facilities, attract new residents and tourism, while promoting community well-being. Give rural Arizonans the option to vote for such a district in their communities by supporting this bill!

For more information, contact:

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