CLEAA Legislative Wrap Up 2016

We are pleased to report that 2016 was the best year yet for the Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Arizona at our State Capitol. Our affiliation with the Arizona Police Association continues to be productive, and the CLEAA brand is strong in the halls of the Capitol. The relationship that we have established with APA lobbyist Mike Williams has produced amazing results. He has been, and continues to be, one of the most effective lobbyists at the Captiol.

This year, we would like to thank our AZPOA partners, and especially Kevin Sheridan and John Stair, for all of their support. Due to our combined efforts, we passed two priority pieces of legislation for our Probation members, Reverse Drop and the fix to the Juvenile Dependency law. In addition to this, after more than four years, we got our brake light bill passed (so get yours fixed)! The new statute reads that any/all brake lights on a vehicle must be in good working order at all times.

With the passage of Prop 124, we believe that PSPRS is now on the path to financial sustainability. Although we understand the frustrations of reduced benefits, we believe that in the long run our members will actually see increased amounts in their monthly pension checks. Perhaps most importantly, we should also remember this: 2017 might be the first Legislative Session **in seven years** that PSPRS won’t be the center of attention. That’s a good thing.

Please see the detailed list below of passed legislation that CLEAA either worked on or supported. As always if you have questions you can contact Jason Winsky at JasonWinsky@gmail.com

S1160: CORP; REVERSE DEFERRED RETIREMENT OPTION

The reverse deferred retirement option plan for members of the Corrections

Officer Retirement Plan no longer terminates on June 30, 2016. Emergency

clause. AS SIGNED BY GOVERNOR.

First sponsor: Sen. Smith

Others: Sen. Begay, Rep. Borrelli, Rep. Cardenas, Rep. Coleman, Rep. Larkin, Rep. Lawrence,

Sen. Shooter, Rep. Shope

H2011: PUBLIC SAFETY; VIOLENCE PREVENTION; COMMITTEE

Establishes a 14-member Public Safety and Violence Prevention Study

Committee to research and report on how to promote public safety and curtail

violence. The Committee is required to submit a report to the Governor and the

Legislature by December 31, 2016. Self-repeals October 1, 2017.

First sponsor: Rep. Friese

Others: Rep. Finchem, Sen. Sherwood, Rep. Thorpe

H2019: CREDITED SERVICE; MILITARY SERVICE PURCHASE

Members of the Elected Officials Retirement Plan, Public Safety Personnel

Retirement System and Corrections Officer Retirement Plan are permitted to

purchase credited service for periods of active military service if the member

has at least 5 years of credited service with the applicable plan, decreased from

10 years. Retroactive to August 2, 2012 and only until July 1, 2017, for PSPRS,

EORP and CORP, the discount rate used by the actuary for the calculation of the

actuarial present value of the projected benefits is an amount equal to the

assumed rate of return that is prescribed by the PSPRS Board. AS SIGNED BY

GOVERNOR.

First sponsor: Rep. Stevens

H2165: PEACE OFFICER MEMORIAL BOARD; MEMBERS

The membership of the Arizona Peace Officers Memorial Board is modified to

allow the Attorney General, the Director of the Department of Public Safety, the

Director of the Department of Corrections, the Executive Director of the Arizona

Criminal Justice Commission, and the county sheriff and local police chief who

are appointed to the Board to have a designee serve on the Board in their

place. AS SIGNED BY GOVERNOR.

First sponsor: Rep. Borrelli

Others: Rep. Campbell, Rep. Carter, Rep. Cobb, Rep. Fann, Rep. Finchem, Rep. Pratt, Rep. Shope

H2350: PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES; COUNSELING (PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES;

COUNSELING)

The state or a political subdivision of the state is required to establish a

program to provide specified "public safety employees" (defined) who are

exposed to specified traumatic events while in the course of duty up to 12 visits

of "licensed counseling" (defined), which may be provided via telemedicine,

paid for by the employer. Traumatic events include the use of deadly force or

subjection to deadly force, witnessing the death of another, and requiring

rescue in the line of duty where one's life was endangered. Some exceptions.

Self-repeals January 1, 2023. AS SIGNED BY GOVERNOR.

First sponsor: Rep. Finchem

Others: Rep. Bowers,

H2509: VEHICLE EQUIPMENT; LIGHTING

A tail lamp is added to the list of vehicle lamps that must be maintained at all

times in good working condition, in addition to a stop lamp or other signal

lamps. A person is prohibited from selling a new motor vehicle and from driving

a vehicle on the highways unless every stop lamp on the vehicle meets

statutory requirements for visibility and being in good working condition. The

first violation of driving a vehicle on the highway without every stop lamp

working is not a civil traffic violation and cannot result in a citation, but may

result in a warning or notice to repair. AS PASSED HOUSE.

First sponsor: Rep. Gray

Others: Rep. Ackerley, Rep. Borrelli, Rep. Shope

H2643: PSPRS; CORP; EORP; ADMINISTRATION CHANGES

Various changes relating to public retirement systems. For the Public Safety

Personnel Retirement System and the Corrections Officer Retirement Plan, the

alternate contribution rate is the portion of the individual employer’s total

required contribution that is applied to the amortization of the unfunded

actuarial accrued liability for the fiscal year, instead of to the total required

contribution for all employers. For the Elected Officials’ Retirement Plan and the

Corrections Officer Retirement Plan, a member who retires and who

subsequently becomes an elected official, by election or appointment, is not

considered reemployed by the same employer. AS PASSED HOUSE.

First sponsor: Rep. Olson

S1442: MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES; INFO DISCLOSURE

Requirements for a health care provider or entity to disclose confidential health

care records are modified to allow the disclosure to relatives, close personal

friends or any other person identified by the patient as otherwise authorized or

required by state or federal law. If the patient is present or otherwise available

and has the capacity to make health care decisions, the health care entity is

permitted to disclose the information if the patient agrees verbally or in writing,

the patient is given an opportunity to object and does not object, or the entity

reasonably infers from the circumstances that the patient does not object. If

the patient is not present or the opportunity to agree or object to the disclosure

cannot practicably be provided, the entity may disclose the information if the

entity determines that the disclosure is in the best interests of the patient.

Factors a provider or entity must consider in determining whether the release

of information is in the best interest of the patient are specified. Information

disclosed under these provisions can only include information that is directly

relevant to the person's involvement with the patient's health care or payment

related to the patient's health care. A health care entity is required to keep a

record of the name and contact information of any person to whom any patient

information is released. AS PASSED SENATE.

First sponsor: Sen. Barto