

Published: 02.15.2005

## Legislative briefing

### Guns in bars, eateries

PHOENIX - The Senate Judiciary Committee voted 5-2 Monday to let anyone take a gun into a bar or restaurant where liquor is sold unless the owner posts a sign banning guns. That would overturn state laws that ban weapons anywhere alcohol is sold.

SB 1363 drew criticism from Don Isaacson, who lobbies for both the Arizona Licensed Beverage Association and the Fraternal Order of Police. He said the presumption should be the other way: Guns should be off limits unless the owner specifically posts a sign saying they are allowed.

But Sen. John Huppenthal, R-Chandler, said all people would be safer because criminals would not know which potential victims were armed.

The bill now goes to the full Senate. A similar bill was defeated last year, but some of the foes are no longer lawmakers.

### Birth control? No sale

The Senate Family Services Committee voted 3-2 Monday to let pharmacists refuse to dispense birth control pills, the "morning-after" pill and RU-486, which can abort a fetus at early stages of pregnancy. SB 1485 now requires a vote of the full Senate; the House is considering identical legislation.

### House OKs cloning ban

A divided House agreed Monday to ban state funding for human cloning.

Rep. Bob Stump, R-Peoria, said putting public cash into that research "would be making our taxpaying constituents complicit in a process in which human life would be regarded as a natural resource to be harvested like a cattle herd or a field of sugar cane."

The measure was opposed by Rep. Ted Downing, D-Tucson, because it would ban cash not just for reproductive cloning - designed to produce a duplicate human - but also for therapeutic cloning, in which the goal is to produce cells that could be used to treat a disease.

The 41-19 vote sends the measure to the Senate.

### 'Phishing' felony

The Senate Judiciary Committee gave unanimous approval Monday to making "phishing" a felony crime.

In "phishing," would-be thieves send out e-mails pretending to be someone's bank, telling recipients there is evidence of fraud and they should log on to a site to prevent the loss of their funds. The e-mail user doesn't find out the site is actually a fake until after providing a computer log-on and a Social Security number.

SB 1447 now goes to the full Senate.

### Big game permits

On a 47-12 vote the Arizona House of Representatives agreed to let hunters transfer their permits to kill big game animals to an organization that caters to children with life-threatening medical conditions. HB 2127 now goes to

the Senate.

## **Deseg taxes nixed**

The Arizona House voted 36-24 to bar school districts from raising any more money in local taxes for desegregation programs. HB 2498 would require boards to seek the money from the state Department of Education, though there is no guarantee that the Legislature will appropriate any funds. It now goes to the Senate.

*Capitol Media Services*

All content copyright © 1999-2005 AzStarNet, Arizona Daily Star and its wire services and suppliers and may not be republished without permission. All rights reserved. Any copying, redistribution, or retransmission of any of the contents of this service without the expressed written consent of Arizona Daily Star or AzStarNet is prohibited.

**The Green Guide**  
The Source for Eco-Friendly Advice. Product  
Reviews, Shopping Tips.  
[www.thegreenguide.com](http://www.thegreenguide.com)

Public Service Ads by Google