



ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Fifty-Sixth Legislature, First Regular Session

AMENDED
FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1136

~~trade or commerce; technical correction~~
(NOW: rural business development advisory council)

Purpose

Adds, to the duties of the Rural Business Development Advisory Council (Advisory Council), the requirement to provide research on limitations and challenges to securing economic development projects, including challenges related to water certainty, broadband and infrastructure.

Background

The Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) is charged with providing private sector leadership in growing and diversifying the economy of Arizona, creating high quality employment through expansion, attraction and retention of businesses and markets Arizona. The ACA is governed by a public-private board that employs a chief executive officer who is responsible for managing, executing, administering and supervising the activities of the ACA (A.R.S. §§ [41-1502](#) and [41-1503](#)). The duties of the ACA include establishing and supervising the operations of full-time or part-time offices in other states and foreign countries for the purpose of expanding direct investment and export trade opportunities for businesses and industries in Arizona, assessing and collecting fees for processing applications and administering incentives and establishing a program by which entrepreneurs become aware of permits, licenses or authorizations needed to establish, expand or operate in Arizona ([A.R.S. § 41-1504](#)).

The Advisory Council is charged with advising the ACA Board of Directors regarding rural business development strategies, including creating jobs, diversifying economies and attracting new investments. The duties of the Advisory Council include: 1) recommending to the ACA Board of Directors policy development and funding allocations to complement regional and local economic development strategies that focus on and assist rural communities; 2) developing selection criteria and an application format for rural communities or areas to use in applying for matching monies; 3) assisting local rural economic development professionals, main street project managers and others involved in economic development; 4) making recommendations regarding state responsibilities under any necessary contracts with consultants, including the National Main Street Center of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and coordination of the activities of other state agency personnel assisting with rural economic development programs; and 5) coordinating the expenditure of available federal monies to support rural business and economic development programs. The Advisory Council must also develop priorities for economic strength projects based on factors such as the cost of the project, the number of jobs that the project will create, retain or increase, and the amount of expenditures required for local infrastructure relating to the project (A.R.S. §§ [28-7281](#) and [41-1505](#)).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Adds, to the duties of the Advisory Council, the requirement to provide research on limitations and challenges to securing economic development projects, including challenges related to water certainty, broadband and infrastructure.
2. Becomes effective on the general effective date

Amendments Adopted by Committee

- Adopted the strike-everything amendment.

Senate Action

COM 2/15/23 DPA/SE 5-0-2

Prepared by Senate Research

March 1, 2023

JT/PM/sr