



**ARIZONA STATE SENATE**  
*Fifty-Sixth Legislature, Second Regular Session*

**AMENDED**  
FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1279

satanic displays; public property; prohibition

Purpose

Prohibits satanic memorials, statues, altars or displays or any other method of representing or honoring Satan from being erected on public property in Arizona.

Background

The Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) is responsible for the direction and control of public buildings maintenance. The ADOA is responsible for the allocation of space, operation, alteration, renovation and security of the following buildings: 1) the State Capitol Executive Tower of the State Capitol Building; 2) the state office buildings in Tucson; 3) the state office buildings located at four statutorily prescribed addresses; and 4) all other buildings owned or leased by the state and located near the State Capitol Building and the state office buildings in Tucson, with exceptions. The ADOA is responsible for the maintenance of the following buildings and grounds: 1) the entire State Capitol Building and the grounds adjacent to it; 2) the state office buildings in Tucson and the grounds adjacent to them; and 3) other buildings and grounds owned or leased by the state if the function is not otherwise assigned, except for the interior of the Arizona Courts Building. The Director of the ADOA may establish rules for the operation, maintenance and security of buildings and grounds under the director's jurisdiction ([A.R.S. § 41-791](#)).

Legislative Council is responsible for the allocation of space, operation, alteration, renovation and control of the following: 1) the State Capitol Museum and its legislative services wing; 2) the Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza; and 3) any other facility acquired for legislative use and placed under Legislative Council jurisdiction and the grounds adjacent to it. The Speaker of the House of Representatives is responsible for the allocation of space, operation, alteration, renovation and control of the House of Representatives wing of the State Capitol Building. The President of the Senate is responsible for the allocation of space, operation, alteration, renovation and control of the Senate wing of the State Capitol Building ([A.R.S. § 41-1304.05](#)). The common council of an incorporated city or town has control of the finances and property of the corporation. A county board of supervisors has the power to make such orders for the disposition or use of its property as the interests of the inhabitants of the county require ([A.R.S. §§ 9-240](#) and [11-201](#)).

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

Provisions

1. Prohibits satanic memorials, statues, altars or displays or any other method of representing or honoring Satan from being erected on public property in the state of Arizona or any of its political subdivisions.

2. Designates this legislation as the *Reject Escalating Satanism by Preserving Essential Core Traditions (RESPECT) Act*.
3. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

Amendments Adopted by Committee of the Whole

- Clarifies that satanic memorials, statues, altars or displays or any other method of representing or honoring Satan are prohibited from being erected, rather than displayed, on public property in the state of Arizona or any of its political subdivisions.

Senate Action

GOV            2/7/24        DP        5-1-2

Prepared by Senate Research

February 21, 2024

JT/MA/slp