

From: Sandy Carpenter
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2010 5:15 PM
To: First Things First
Subject: Call and legislative update 2-26-2010

- Systems Building

The concept of Systems Building is important to the future direction of early childhood as a whole and specifically to First Things First. As a group we all need to follow a shared vision about where we are going, what are the benchmarks by which we will measure ourselves and how we will be measured. First Things First takes this responsibility very seriously and a Task Force has been established to review the information and the direction of the early childhood movement. For future years, this work will guide us and the early childhood movement not only on the ways money will be spent, but also on needed programs. You will continue to hear about this movement and you will be provided additional mechanisms for feedback and input. Your questions and comments are welcome!

- Legislative Report

Next week the legislature is going to work on the budget and do "Floor Work". The "Floor Work" will consist of the legislature amending bills in Committee of the Whole (COW) and voting bills out of each chamber on Third Read. After this process occurs, for about a month or so, House bills will be heard in Senate Committees and Senate bills will be heard in House Committees. All standing committees are cancelled for next week.

There is talk that the Governor will call a Special Session on the budget next week, but that will be dependent on the House, the Senate, and the Governor's Office reaching consensus.

Bills that FTF has been tracking and had action this past week include:

HCR 2039 Temporary Suspension; Voter Protected Funding - passed

HCR 2041 Funding Ballot Measures; Reauthorization - passed

HCR 2050 First Things First – failed

SB 1315 Child Care Programs; Fees – passed amended

One other SCR that affects FTF and has passed out of the Senate Appropriations Committee on February 2, is - SCR 1033 Repeal 1998 Prop 105

All HCR's and SCR's if passed by both the House and the Senate in the exact same form will be on the November 2, General Election Ballot for the electorate to decide the fate of the measure – 50% +1 of the votes cast means passage of the measure.

The sales tax increase is on the May 18th Ballot with Early Voting beginning April 22.

If you have any questions please, contact Sandy Carpenter scarpenter@azftf.gov or (602) 771-5068

- Conflict of Interest

A Fact Sheet will be sent to you by Liz Barker Alvarez, Communications Director. A training session reviewing potential conflicts will be provided, please look for the announcement.

If you have any questions, please contact Liz Barker Alvarez lbarker@azftf.gov or (602) 771-5063 or Tiffany Erickson terickson@azftf.gov (602) 771-5022

- Communications

The ARIZONA REPUBLIC has submitted a request for fiscal and programmatic information about First Things First. There is an in-depth article being prepared which may appear in the Sunday newspaper. We will keep you informed. The Protocol for media contact will be resent to you by Liz Barker Alvarez, Communications Director.

If you have any questions, please contact Liz Barker Alvarez <mailto:lbalvarez@azftf.gov> or (602) 771-5063 or Tiffany Erickson terickson@azftf.gov (602) 771-5022

SANDRA CARPENTER GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH BOARD 602.771.5068 (w) 602.274.7040 (f) 602.320.1619 (m) scarpenter@azftf.gov http://www.azftf.gov/	
	

To ensure compliance with the Open Meeting Law, recipients of this message should not forward it to other members of the public body. Members of the public body may send their reply to the sender of the message, but they should not send a copy of the reply to other members.