

Secular AZ News

An apology is not enough.

As you may have heard, secular invocations have once again become a hot topic at the Legislature. During Monday's Secular Day at the Capitol, nearly 100 constituents traveled from all over the state to demonstrate their pride in their nonreligious identities and belief in the 1st Amendment. As has sadly become a trend, religious lawmakers once again made a farce out of an atheist lawmaker's attempt to deliver a pre-floor invocation— [this time by "mistakenly" denying Senator Mendez his scheduled prayer slot.](#)

Senator Mendez filed official protest over his discrimination on Thursday. (Watch [here.](#)) While she has insisted the prayer switch was an accident, **President Fann has not responded to Secular AZ's request for a meeting** to discuss why this issue is important and how the Senate can ensure the Legislature is welcoming to people of all religious beliefs.



What you can do:

1. Tweet at President Fann ([@FannKFann](#)) urging a meeting with Senator Mendez to discuss solutions to anti-atheist discrimination at the Capitol. (Click [here](#) for a sample tweet)
2. [Sign our petition to President Fann here](#), demanding an end to religious invocations altogether

Christian Nationalist bills still hot in motion



Last week marked the beginning of "crossover" at the Legislature— the final period for bills in the House and Senate to be heard before sending bills passed to the other chamber. **Our two most important anti-secular bills this session— HB2706 and HB2388— are unfortunately showing no sign of slowing down and could come up for a vote during this critical week.**

A coalition of lawmakers and stakeholders (of which Secular AZ is part) held a [press conference](#) on Thursday in which speakers decried HB2706 as discriminatory and invasive against all girl athletes— cisgender and transgender alike.

Make no mistake about it: HB2706 is [a major part of the Christian Nationalist strategy this year.](#) It's one of

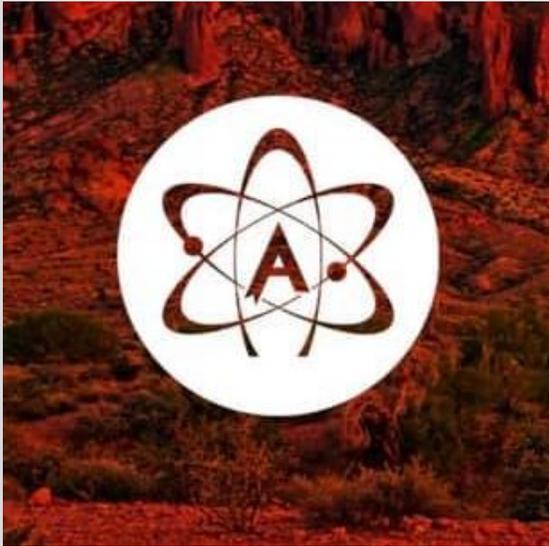
10 similar anti-transgender bills introduced nationwide by "Project Blitz" in an attempt to rouse the religious right voter base and continue to normalize church/state conflation..

The same goes for **HB2388—funding religious fake clinics—** which also stands a high likelihood of coming up for a House vote in the coming days.

What you can do:

1. [Send an email to House lawmakers regarding HB2706](#)
2. [Send an email to House lawmakers regarding HB2388](#)
3. Keep sharing with your networks and keep the pressure on!

Events



American Atheists Convention

Hundreds of atheists will gather in downtown Phoenix, Arizona, from Thursday, April 9 through Sunday, April 12 for the annual American Atheists National Convention.

Join us to take part in the presentations, social events, comedy and game nights, workshops, exhibits, networking, and community events that make this conference the highlight of the year for hundreds of American atheists.

Learn more [here](#).

Other statewide and national news:

[Florida Bill Prevents Kids from Studying Subjects Their Parents Don't Agree With](#)

[Handmaids Protest at Senate: 'Eddie Farnsworth Protects Rapists'](#)

[Utah senate unanimously moves to decriminalize polygamy](#)

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Membership

Bill Tracker

