

Extreme-heat protection rule in limbo

It’s unclear if Trump will allow proposed measure

Laura Gersony
Arizona Republic
USA TODAY NETWORK

The federal government is considering a rule designed to protect workers from extreme heat, but its future under President Donald Trump’s administration is unclear.

The Trump administration has taken a sledgehammer to dozens of worker protections set into motion by former President Joe Biden. But the proposed heat rule, overseen by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, so far has been untouched.

The rule would mandate different safety protocols based on “heat index,” a measure that combines temperature and humidity.

At 80 degrees, the rule would require employers to provide water and rest

areas for their workers. At 90 degrees, employers would also have to provide a 15-minute paid rest break every two hours, at minimum, among other protections.

Still, advocates are bracing for OSHA to water down the rule, or scuttle it altogether, as the Trump administration solicits feedback from stakeholders in the business community.

The Small Business Administration’s Office of Advocacy held a roundtable July 25, hosting lobbyists from the

American Farm Bureau, the Chamber of Commerce, and several prominent law firms known for opposing regulations that shift leverage away from employers and toward workers.

“The general suspicion is that they won’t move forward,” said Maxwell Ulin, a staff attorney with Unite Here Local 11, a union representing hotel and food service workers in California and Arizona.

“But we don’t know, and we hope that

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Optimism after Trump, Zelenskyy meet in DC



The meeting between President Donald Trump and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy at the White House on Aug. 18 was much more positive than the meeting in February that ended on negative terms.

ANNA MONEYMAKER/GETTY IMAGES

Visit opposite of disastrous last meeting

Francesca Chambers, Zac Anderson and Joey Garrison
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – In February, the last time Volodymyr Zelenskyy came to the White House, Vice President JD Vance called him “disrespectful” and President Donald Trump mocked the Ukrainian president’s military garb before kicking him out.

Zelenskyy was again ushered into the the White House on Aug. 18. This time, he wore a black suit, was accompanied by a slew of European leaders and made a point of thanking Trump for his efforts.

And both presidents expressed optimism over the prospect of ending the war between Russia and Ukraine.

The first meeting took place among Zelenskyy, Trump and Vance. The men then invited in French President Emmanuel Macron, British Prime Minister Keir Starmer, German Chancellor Friedrich Merz, Finnish President Alexander Stubb, Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte. Discussions were expected to last for six hours or more.

Zelenskyy has focused on getting security guarantees. The European contingent had the same goal, and wanted to move Trump away from Russian President Vladimir Putin’s conditions for a peace deal. Trump met with Putin in Alaska Aug. 15; the Europeans were not invited.

“We had a constructive, specific meeting. We are happy that we have such big unity today.”

Volodymyr Zelenskyy

After his private meeting with Trump and Vance, Zelenskyy told reporters the conversation was “really good” and discussed “very sensitive points” about ending the war with Russia.

“This is very important that the United States gives such strong signal and is ready for security guarantees” against future potential attacks,

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Law puts Phoenix’s historic districts on edge

Many fear multi-unit homes will lessen charm

Lauren De Young and Shawn Raymundo

Arizona Republic
USA TODAY NETWORK

A row of monotonous two-story gray buildings leaches the color out of a once-vibrant neighborhood. Small, charming homes, one by one, transform into identical duplexes, triplexes and quadplexes.

This is the fear of many residents who own homes in Phoenix’s and Tempe’s historic districts.

“Once you knock it down, that history is gone,” said Mary Crozier, a member of the North Central Phoenix Homeowners Association.

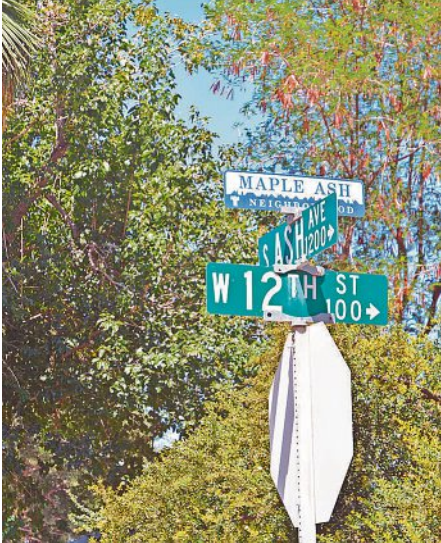
Since May 2024, Arizona communities have been working to update their zoning rules as required by House Bill 2721. That’s the new law allowing owners of single-family lots within one mile of a downtown district to develop middle-housing properties.

State lawmakers hope the legislation will create more opportunities for housing by compelling cities with more than 75,000 residents to allow duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes and townhomes in single-family neighborhoods.

Since its passage, however, the measure has faced fierce opposition from residents of historic neighborhoods. They hoped their districts would be safe from the bill despite worries their distinctive communities would be overrun with dense, multi-family housing projects.

As for the cities, the law placed

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A sign marks the historic Tempe district called the Maple-Ash neighborhood.

JEROD MACDONALD-EVOY/THE REPUBLIC

MORE EXTREME HEAT VALLEY & STATE, 3A



After a bit of moisture, Phoenix is gearing up for another stretch of extreme heat. ROB SCHUMACHER/THE REPUBLIC

ASU season opener nears

Arizona State’s football team has more depth and talent than it has in recent memory. The team returns 16 starters after winning the Big 12 last year. 1B

Phoenix rockers join ’80s tour

The Phoenix psychobilly/punk band Limit Club is taking a break as founder Nick Feratu and bassist Nick Meza tour the country as part of an ’80s nostalgia tour. 1C

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