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#### AZ Senate OKs bill on transportation projects

Reported by: Associated Press

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The Senate has approved a bill that could set the stage for construction of toll highways.

The Senate's 21-8 vote Monday sends the bill back to the House, which overwhelmingly approved a version on March 31, to consider changes made by the Senate.

The bill would set ground rules for the Arizona Department of Transportation to enter into so-called "public-private partnerships" for construction, financing, operation and maintenance of transportation projects.

The bill also authorizes the department to issue bonds for the projects.

House Republican leaders have said the partnerships could involve toll roads.

Arizona law already permits toll roads but none have been built and the current statutes are considered outdated.

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