



October 14, 2023

## WE STAND WITH ISRAEL

Senate Republicans stand in support of Israel, one of our nation's most important allies. We strongly condemn the horrific violence happening against innocent Israeli civilians and Americans. More than a thousand people in Israel have been killed by the terrorist group known as Hamas. Their goal is the destruction and genocide of Israel and its people. We send prayers for strength, courage, and comfort as the Israelis fight against pure evil. We call on Joe Biden to take immediate action against Iran for orchestrating this rampage, to protect the innocent children who remain in harm's way, to rescue the American hostages who face torture and death, and to eliminate Hamas from the face of the earth. We also call on our Governor to hold accountable anyone in our state engaging in terrorism supporting Hamas. Speaker Toma and I issued a proclamation on this tragedy. [Read it here.](#)



*-President Warren Petersen*

## OPEN BORDER LEADS TO TERRORIST THREATS

The violence carried out by terrorists in Israel can unfortunately happen here in Arizona because of the negligence of the Biden Administration in allowing our border to remain wide open. Staggering data released by Customs and Border Protection reveals more than 200 terrorists were captured at our southern border, and more than 400 at our northern border, over the past fiscal year. These record-setting apprehensions do not include the thousands of gotaways that made it into our country and are currently roaming under the radar. We must remain vigilant. China, Iran, Afghanistan, Russia and other nations considered adversaries to the U.S. likely have agents in our country right now gathering intelligence and looking for vulnerabilities that will provide them with the opportunity to strike. Border security is national security. We demand President Biden take swift action to address this crisis before it's too late.



*-Senator David Gowan*



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## HOBBS NOMINATED ANTISEMITIC EXTREMIST

Antisemitism has no place in government, including our critical state agencies tasked with serving all of Arizona citizens. For this reason, our Senate Committee on Director Nominations stopped Katie Hobbs' irresponsible pick from leading the Registrar of Contractors, former Arizona Senator Martin Quezada. He has a reputation of pushing anti-Semitic and anti-Israel views. While in the Legislature, he aligned himself with the anti-Israel Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement. He voted against a Holocaust and antisemitism education bill. He also frequently published support on social media for the elimination of Israel with the hashtag #FreePalestine. His bigotry was acceptable to Katie Hobbs. Actions speak louder than words, and sadly, her choice of Mr. Quezada speaks volumes. Needless to say, our vetting process protected our citizens.



-Senator Jake Hoffman

## REPUBLICANS AIM TO CUT STATE SPENDING

Skyrocketing inflation, rising interest rates, crippling energy costs, and record-high gas prices, caused by reckless policies being pushed by Democrats at the federal level, are crushing Arizonans' ability to have discretionary income. The current housing market is also playing a role. As a result, many of our citizens are struggling to pay for basic necessities, and they're spending much less than they normally would, limiting the tax revenues our state is able to generate. Consequently, we learned this week that the state will experience a budget shortfall of \$400 million in FY2024 and potentially \$450 million in FY2025. Republican lawmakers will evaluate a variety of ways to cut spending in order to accommodate this shortfall and return to a balanced budget. What won't be on the chopping block is our school choice program, which saves the state roughly \$6000 per child enrolled.



-Senator John Kavanagh



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## INVESTIGATING ASU ATHLETICS PROGRAM

I appreciate the response I recently received from the Arizona Board of Regents Chairman to my letter inquiring about the problematic leadership of ASU's athletic program. I'm in the process of setting up a meeting to discuss the number of issues centering around a lack of accountability from ASU's current athletic director, Ray Anderson. With a track record of numerous mistakes made by Mr. Anderson hurting our student athletes, my goal is to investigate the mismanagement of ASU athletics and hopefully get some real answers into his questionable decisions. From the hiring and contract buy-out of Mr. Anderson's friend, Herm Edwards, which cost \$4.4 million and forced a self-imposed bowl ban, to numerous outright embarrassing issues he's imparted on ASU, I'm certainly not the only one calling for his tenure to end. It's time ASU moves forward with new athletic leadership to reignite Sun Devil pride.



-Senator T.J. Shope

## PROBING THE COVID PANDEMIC RESPONSE

Earlier this year, we hosted the first Novel Coronavirus Southwestern Intergovernmental Committee hearing where our panel of experts and lawmakers held an eye-opening discussion about the healthcare system and data inaccuracies, the abandonment of patient and treatment protocols during COVID-19, and the importance of data transparency. Now, we aim to educate the public about their rights and resources regarding healthcare decisions, as well as emphasize the significance of informed consent and medical autonomy. We also hope to use the information obtained through this committee to help draft future legislation. I won't stand for the government dictating healthcare and neither should you. I invite you to join us on Friday, October 20, from 8AM-5PM in Senate Hearing Room 1. We'll also be posting a link on social media to view a live stream of the hearing from your own home.



-Senator Janae Shamp



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## AZ REMAINS A LEADER IN MANUFACTURING

This week, I attended the Manufacturer of the Year Awards and celebrated the growth of Arizona. We're fortunate to be home to companies that make major strides in innovation and sustainability in industries like energy, aerospace & defense, semiconductors, beverages, and more. Arizona's manufacturing industry stands as a shining example of American innovation and economic growth, boasting remarkable expansion rates that outpace the rest of the nation. Year after year, this vital sector pumps over \$77 billion into our thriving state economy. The backbone of this success story is the hardworking and skilled labor force of hundreds of thousands of Arizona workers who dedicate their expertise to sustain and propel these enterprises forward. We deeply appreciate their contributions and commitment to Arizona's prosperity and congratulate these companies in their pursuit of excellence.



*-Senator Frank Carroll*

## RIO VERDE FOOTHILLS RECEIVES WATER

Let the water flow! I'm thrilled to celebrate the restoration of water access for Rio Verde Foothills. Although this is a short-term solution, I know myself and the residents can feel some relief while we work on long-term solutions by 2025. Through emergency legislation in June, we established the Rio Verde Foothills Standpipe District. It's incredible that the town got through one of the hottest summers without direct access to water, so I'm very thankful to the water haulers and the Standpipe Board for their work. I'm also grateful to Republican Representative Kolodin for his efforts in this accomplishment. Many never realize how vital water is unless they live in a town without it. With this win, and after touring Scottsdale's water facility, I'm confident in Arizona's water future, which is a top priority for me. The technology to help secure this precious resource is here, and I'm hoping to see it put to use, statewide.



*-Senator Justine Wadsack*



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