



June 10, 2023



## AGENCY APPOINTMENTS CLEAR DINO COMMITTEE

The Senate Committee on Director Nominations (DINO) is committed to accurately, honestly and thoroughly vetting leadership appointments made to state agencies by Governor Hobbs. This week, the committee unanimously voted to recommend approval to the Senate body of Commissioner Susan Nicolson for the Department of Real Estate and Director Ryan Thornell for the Department of Corrections. Both Ms. Nicolson and Mr. Thornell are highly qualified for their positions and were well prepared for our line of questioning. They provided straightforward responses, were professional, sincere, truthful and free from partisan political agendas. Unfortunately, this hasn't been the case for all of the Governor's nominees this year. These appointments will go before the entire Senate body for a final vote at a later date.



## CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN ARIZONA'S ELECTIONS

Hobbs vetoed a bill with bipartisan support aimed at ending a conflict of interest currently allowed with those who oversee our elections. I sponsored SB 1264, and nearly every member of the Senate Republicans Caucus co-sponsored it. The bill would have prohibited an elected elections officer or their appointee who oversees aspects of an election from being a member of a Political Action Committee (PAC), since the purpose of PACs is to influence elections. The fact that individuals who have the sacred duty of overseeing the integrity of our elections are also permitted to simultaneously influence those elections through a PAC is disastrous public policy. Allowing such a conflict of interest to persist seriously undermines public trust. It allows for both parties to play games, which I fear will only escalate in light of her misguided veto.



- Senator J.D. Mesnard



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## HOBBS ALLOWS PORN TO BE FILMED IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Seven months ago, local media reported two teachers in Mohave County were fired after filming porn and posting it online. Some of that material was taped in the very classroom one of those teachers taught in. Shockingly, filming pornography in Arizona's K-12 public schools is not illegal. I sponsored SB 1696 to outlaw this practice. Once again, Katie Hobbs spotlighted Democrats' far-left extremism by vetoing this bill this week. It's absolutely sickening that Hobbs is allowing pornography to be filmed in our state's taxpayer funded classrooms. These should be safe spaces for our kids to learn in, not venues for the sexually explicit adult entertainment industry. No 12-year-old child should ever have to worry that their middle school desk was the location of a porn shoot.



- Senator Jake Hoffman

## HOBBS ALLOWS BOYS IN GIRLS' SCHOOL RESTROOMS

Women and young girls deserve privacy and their own protected bathrooms, showers and locker rooms where they can have such privacy and are safe from the risk of sexual harassment or sexual violence. I sponsored SB 1040 to ensure their safety in our public schools. After every Democrat in both the Senate and the House voted against the bill, Governor Katie Hobbs disgracefully vetoed it this week, once again displaying a lack of care or concern for the safety and wellbeing of our Arizona kids. Unfortunately, Democrat Legislators and Governor Hobbs are catering to an extremist culture by pushing 'gender neutrality' as a means to win political points from their liberal base while stealing dignity away from women and girls in the process. In a rush to become 'trans inclusive,' Governor Hobbs and fellow Democrats have forgotten about the needs of innocent young girls.



- Senator John Kavanagh



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## HEALTHCARE PROVIDER SHORTAGE

According to the University of Arizona, our state meets just 37% of its primary care provider needs. We're short nearly 600 primary care physicians (PCPs) statewide, which is why I sponsored SB 1334. This bill would adopt the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact, which allows an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) to hold one multistate license with a privilege to practice in other Compact states. An APRN is a registered nurse who meets all prescribed licensure or certification requirements and who has undergone graduate-level education to engage in advanced practice nursing. I believe this is a great opportunity to help with the healthcare shortage our state's experiencing. This bill is up for reconsideration in the House, and my hope is that it will soon make it's way to the Governor's desk.



- Senator Janae Shamp

## ANIMAL ACUPUNCTURE APPROVED

I'm happy to report a bill I sponsored that allows acupuncturists to treat animals was signed into law this week. SB 1401 passed out of the Legislature with overwhelming bipartisan support. In fact, every member of the Senate body who was present on the day of the vote- all voted in support of this bill! We all love our animals, and we want them to be healthy throughout their time with us. I've heard testimony from a number of citizens who've turned to acupuncture treatment with successful results when drugs weren't helping. In fact, state Representative Stacey Travers shared comments on how one of her feline family members was inexplicably paralyzed. When they took her to the vet, they recommended acupuncture, and she unbelievably started to walk again after treatment. She credits acupuncture for saving her.



- Senator Justine Wadsack



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## RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT COLONEL ELIZABETH ROMERO

This week I visited Luke Airforce Base, where I recognized and thanked Lieutenant Colonel Elizabeth Romero for her outstanding service and accomplishments. As Commander of the 56th Contracting Squadron, she has championed squadron unity and also created a first-ever Women's Initiative Team for Luke Air Force Base. She established a design team to develop a new training ecosystem to meet the unit's needs, and led Small Business Innovative Research acquisitions, enabling the development of the award-winning threat emitter. Romero is a key member of the wing's senior staff, principal business advisor to the Wing Commander, and a treasure to our nation and the State of Arizona.



- Senator T.J. Shope

## A LOOK AHEAD IN THE SENATE

We're looking forward to resuming floor proceedings in the Senate on Monday, after a much needed month-long break to negotiate remaining legislative priorities with members and stakeholders. We were also able to use this time to knock out some very important hearings on water, COVID-19 and executive director nominations. Our goal is to wrap up any outstanding bills this week, including Prop 400, housing and more. However, if members and stakeholders are unable to come to a consensus on these issues, we may have to prolong this session a little bit until those items have a resolution. The good news is, since we've already passed a budget that the Governor signed, we've provided security to our citizens that Government will continue to operate on the start of the new fiscal year come July 1. I encourage you to follow along next week by watching our livestream of proceedings at [azleg.gov](http://azleg.gov).



- Senator Sine Kerr



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