ARIZONA SENATE REPUBLICANS WEEK IN REVIEW



June 8, 2024

SECURE THE BORDER ACT HEADS TO BALLOT

After Biden, our Governor, and Democrat lawmakers blocked all efforts to safeguard our citizens against the rampant crime from the border crisis, we're relieved to announce the Secure the Border Act officially passed out of the Arizona Legislature this week and will head directly to the November ballot, bypassing the Governor. During the 12 years I've served in state office, never has this crisis been as dangerously severe as it is now, costing Arizona taxpayers more than \$3 billion in 2023 alone. Soon, Arizona voters will have an opportunity to take matters into their own hands in response to our federal government refusing to do its job. It's unfortunate radical special interest groups are suing to try to stop our citizens from voting on an issue they consider a top priority. We're confident the Secure the Border Act will survive any scrutiny in court and will be approved by voters.

-Preside



-President Warren Petersen

HOBBS VIOLATED STATE LAW WITH FAKE DIRECTORS

I'm incredibly disappointed Governor Hobbs continues to blatantly violate state law, with the most recent example highlighted this week. After months of throwing Arizona's critical state agencies into chaos and subjecting them to a host of potential legal challenges, a Maricopa County Superior Court judge <u>ruled Hobbs' scheme</u> to circumvent the Senate confirmation process for director nominations is unlawful and must be immediately reversed. Last fall, a committee I serve as vice chair on recommended one of her nominees accused of plagiarism not be confirmed. Shortly after, Hobbs withdrew her 13 director nominations still pending before the Senate, then reinstated these same individuals with the fake title of "Executive Deputy Directors." Hobbs claimed these fake directors had the same power and authority as Senate-confirmed directors. This case is just another example of how Democrats are weaponizing the government for their own political gain. I'm ashamed of their tactics, but thankful the court made the right call to stop the abuse.





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HOBBS' PAY-TO-PLAY SCHEME EXPOSED
This week, Katie Hobbs was exposed for spending millions in taxpayer dollars over the past year to reward a dysfunctional group home in exchange for its campaign contributions to her. A report revealed donations from Sunshine Residential Homes, totaling approximately \$400,000, going towards the Arizona Democratic Party, Hobbs' gubernatorial campaign, as well as her inauguration fund. In response, Hobbs' Department of Child Services (DCS) approved a nearly 60% daily rate increase that Sunshine Residential Homes charges to care for a child. They were the only provider to receive this increase, while others were denied pay increases to home operators, and more than a dozen providers were terminated from the state's system altogether. I sent <u>letters</u> to DCS, as well as AG Kris Mayes and Maricopa County Attorney Rachel Mitchell, requesting unredacted paperwork and further investigation into this potential egregious pay-for-play scandal. Our citizens deserve better, and they deserve to know the truth.



-Senator T.J. Shope

PREPARING FOR A PACIFIC CONFLICT
A bipartisan bill to help ensure our state is prepared in the event of a future conflict overseas is making its way through the Legislature. I sponsored SB 1638 to require the Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (DEMA) to identify any threats posed to the state of Arizona in the event of a Pacific conflict. This bill will also require DEMA to provide a comprehensive risk assessment that includes vulnerabilities recommendations for emergency response strategies in areas like critical infrastructure, state cybersecurity, public health, and safety and security. China is strategically pursuing control over the Pacific, which includes our allies like Taiwan, in order to better position themselves to take down the United States. Their actions are a direct threat to our safety and freedoms as Americans, and we need to ensure we are informed and prepared to protect our state's citizens. SB 1638 will head back to the Senate for a final vote before heading to the Governor for signature. -Senator Frank Carrol



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