



June 22, 2024

CONSERVATIVE STATE BUDGET SIGNED

This week, the Governor officially signed the FY2025 state budget which brings Arizona back into good standing by eliminating a \$1.4 billion deficit. Our approach to this bipartisan, fiscally conservative budget was to protect School Choice/ ESA, shrink government, and aid border security and public safety efforts while funding important transportation projects and avoiding tax increases. Safe communities free of crime and a secure border are the biggest priorities to Arizonans and Republicans alike, and we wanted to ensure our budget reflects that. We made sure there won't be any cuts to Highway Patrol or The Department of Corrections, and increased funding for local border support operations. The state budget will also assist local law enforcement with much-needed fentanyl interdiction. Overall we're investing millions into border security to help support our law enforcement who are overwhelmed with the crisis at the border.

-Senator John Kavanagh



HOBBS DROPS THE BALL ON WATER

Three bills to increase housing supply while reducing groundwater pumping in Arizona, sponsored by Senate Leadership, were signed into law. All three measures transition higher-water-use land to lower-water-use housing developments through voluntary programs. While it was important for the state to look for new supplies, we get an equal benefit from reducing the demand on our aquifers. This legislation will allow Arizona to both conserve and grow. However, these bills were part of a package of four that would have made a far greater impact had they all been signed. It's incredibly disappointing the Governor did not sign SB1172. Although we engaged her office on this proposal in January, they waited until May to do their due diligence and reneged last minute on an agreement. Her administration dropped the ball, and homebuyers will be the ones losing out because of her inaction.

-President Warren Petersen





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VETO QUEEN STRIKES AGAIN

I sponsored SB1511 to hold health care providers and insurance companies accountable for the damage they cause by prescribing off-label drugs and experimenting on children and adults with irreversible gender-altering surgeries. Sadly, Hobbs vetoed it. If doctors are going to block the natural puberty process of children and surgically alter the genitalia of people struggling with gender dysphoria, they must be prepared to undo the damage – as much as possible. And if insurers are going to pay for gender-altering drugs and surgeries, they must also pay for efforts to regain the victim’s God-given identity. Shame on Hobbs for sending a message that institutions tasked with protecting their health and wellbeing have turned their backs on them. This week, Hobbs also vetoed SB1435, sponsored by Senator Bolick, which would have helped protect minors while at school, or any other public entity, by holding employers accountable if they fail to perform proper background checks. Keeping our children safe should be our top priority!

-Senator Janae Shamp



STAY CONNECTED DURING THE INTERIM

It’s hard to believe another session is already in the books! We’ve enjoyed keeping you up to date on all our work on the issues that matter most to Arizonans with our weekly newsletter. However, we’ll be making some changes as things begin to slow down at the Legislature. During the interim, we will move to a monthly newsletter that will still be sent straight to your inbox! We remain committed to making sure our constituents are as informed as possible. In addition to our newsletter, our website, azsenaterepublicans.gov is a tremendous source! We upload press releases, records of interest, and other important information and documents to the website regularly. The Senate Republican Caucus is also on X, Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube, and our social media accounts are another great way to stay up to date. Of course, you can always follow your favorite senators too!

-Senator T.J. Shope





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