



September 30, 2023

## GOVERNOR MAKES AN UNLAWFUL POWER GRAB

I find it very disturbing that our Governor has decided to openly break Arizona law when it comes to appointing directors to run our critical state agencies. This week, she sent me a letter saying she was withdrawing her remaining nominees from consideration by the Senate. She informed those candidates that they're being given a new title in an effort to circumvent our confirmation process. The fact is, our process was working. Our Committee on Director Nominations advanced seven out of 10 appointments. The Governor apparently wants us to rubber stamp her picks, but the citizens of Arizona deserve a thorough vetting process for these candidates who have a heavy impact on their lives and livelihoods, and that was exactly what we did. I told the Governor from the beginning that if her picks were hyper-partisan or incompetent, they would not survive, and that's what happened with several.



*-President Warren Petersen*



## HOBBS' TEMPER TANTRUM HURTS ARIZONANS

With this latest stunt, Katie Hobbs has doubled down on her commitment to weaponizing the government of Arizona to enact her extreme far-left agenda. Our citizens deserve highly qualified, non-partisan individuals to lead these agencies, instead Hobbs has chosen to nominate partisans and ideologues. She is the only person to blame for her nominees struggling to succeed under actual due diligence. Hobbs should have done her homework prior to making her nominations, yet she chose not to and is now attempting to blame everyone else except herself for her failures. Hobbs has made it abundantly clear that she has no intention of working constructively with the Legislature the voters gave her. Instead, she's choosing to throw petulant temper tantrums when she doesn't get her way. The only ones who stand to lose in the wake of her childish games are the citizens of Arizona. I'm disappointed, but not surprised.



*-Senator Jake Hoffman*





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## WHY VETTING AGENCY DIRECTORS MATTERS

A heartbreaking incident from last December spotlights a prime example of why thorough vetting of state agency directors matters. A 9-year-old boy with type one diabetes died after employees of his state-run group home let him refuse his insulin medication. I'm truly sorry that the state of Arizona did not live up to its responsibility to properly care for this child. We need more transparency from the Department of Child Safety. They have a critical job of protecting Arizona's most vulnerable, like this young boy, and we need to know what the agency is doing to prevent another tragedy. Lives are at stake, and the Governor is only perpetuating dangerous disfunction within our agencies by withdrawing her nominees from the Senate confirmation process. With no director in charge to hold accountable at DCS, any future incidents will be a direct result of Hobbs' unlawful and reckless maneuver.



-Senator T.J. Shope

## BIDEN TURNS A BLIND EYE TO THE BORDER CRISIS

I'm deeply concerned that the incompetence of President Biden continues to intensify the national security emergency and humanitarian crisis that's currently unfolding in southern Arizona due to our open border. He paid a visit to Arizona this week, and instead of making a trip to see the disaster firsthand and find out how the feds could support our law enforcement, he enjoyed a fundraiser for re-election. He's not been to the border at all since taking office. Once Title 42 expired, illegal border crossings skyrocketed. The busiest area in the nation for illegal alien encounters is the Border Patrol's Tucson Sector. Last week alone, they reported agents apprehended 11,000 illegals. The situation has gotten so bad, agents began releasing detainees into our communities two weeks ago because they've hit overcapacity at their facilities. The federal government needs do its job to protect our communities, and the madness must stop.



-Senator David Gowan



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## DEMOCRAT POLICIES SEND GAS PRICES SURGING

As Chair of the Committee on Natural Resources, Water & Energy, I've been getting questions on why gas prices are so high. A number of Arizona communities are again hitting \$5 a gallon. This is a direct effect of irresponsible anti-oil and gas policies adopted by the Biden Administration. As part of the radical Democrat agenda to end the production and use of fossil fuels, they're turning to dangerous foreign nations for oil production. Biden could instead get more domestic oil from states like Texas, Alaska, and New Mexico if he stopped playing political games. Arizona also has an outdated fuel blend requirement that no other state has to comply with. I will be addressing this issue in the next Air Quality & Energy Ad Hoc Committee. We all want a clean environment, but forcing hardworking taxpayers to suffer while creating energy dependence on other nations is not the answer.



-Senator Sine Kerr

## FIGHTING TO PROTECT OUR VETERANS

I was made aware that a number of veteran organizations and nonprofits statewide have endured tyrannical scrutiny from several state agencies over their use of a specific technology for their bingo games, which serve as fundraisers and a source of camaraderie for these groups. Bingo Technological Aids (BTAs) have been lawful in Arizona since 2017. They're a substitute for bingo cards and accommodate individuals with disabilities, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Departments of Revenue, Gaming, and Liquor are all threatening to criminally prosecute these nonprofits and revoke their liquor licenses because they're using BTAs. I have a hunch this harassment is due to influence of the tribal gaming industry who wants monopoly over all gaming. I sent a public records request to these agencies to get to the bottom of this issue, and I hope to come to a resolution soon.



-Senator Sonny Borrelli



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