

**SENATOR T.J. SHOPE**  
PRESIDENT PRO-TEMPORE  
1700 WEST WASHINGTON, SUITE 212  
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007  
CAPITOL PHONE: (602) 926-3012  
TOLL-FREE: 1-800-352-8404  
tshope@azleg.gov

**DISTRICT 16**



**COMMITTEES:**

NATURAL RESOURCES, CHAIRMAN  
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES VICE-CHAIRMAN  
DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS  
PUBLIC SAFETY  
RULES

May 7, 2025

The Honorable Kris Mayes  
Arizona Attorney General  
2005 N Central Ave  
Phoenix, AZ 85004

The Honorable Rachel Mitchell  
Maricopa County Attorney  
301 W Jefferson St  
Phoenix, AZ 85003

Dear Attorney General Mayes and County Attorney Mitchell,

I am writing to follow up on my letter dated June 5, 2024, which requested a civil or criminal investigation into potential "pay-to-play" activities involving Sunshine Residential Homes, Inc., and its interactions with the Hobbs administration. This request was prompted by troubling reports of contributions made to benefit Governor Katie Hobbs and the Arizona Democratic Party, followed by significant rate increases granted to Sunshine Residential—a Department of Child Safety (DCS) provider with a documented history of serious operational deficiencies.

The recent veto by Governor Hobbs of SB 1612 on May 5, 2025, only heightens the urgency of this matter. This legislation was crafted in direct response to ongoing concerns about the integrity of state procurement processes. Among other things, SB 1612 would have required disclosure of political contributions from entities seeking state contracts or grants.

By rejecting this commonsense transparency reform, Governor Hobbs has chosen to shield her administration from accountability rather than restore public confidence in how millions in taxpayer dollars are awarded. In the absence of these legislative safeguards, it is now more important than ever that your offices ensure the integrity of state government by enforcing existing laws that prohibit self-dealing with state funds.

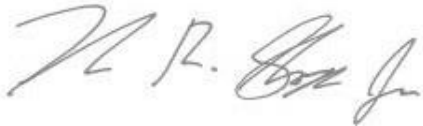
Accordingly, I respectfully request an update on the status of any investigation initiated in response to my June 2024 letter. I recognize that the sensitive nature of these inquiries may limit the information you can provide. Nevertheless, to the extent possible, I would appreciate any update on whether a formal investigation is underway, anticipated timelines, or other relevant steps your offices are taking to pursue these serious allegations.

Arizona taxpayers deserve confidence that their government contracts are awarded fairly and free from political favoritism.

Please direct any correspondence or questions to my office at [tshope@azleg.gov](mailto:tshope@azleg.gov) or 602-926-3012.

Thank you for your time and attention. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T.J. Shope". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

T.J. Shope  
Senator, District 16  
President Pro Tempore  
Arizona State Senate