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Caucus Newsletter

57th Legislature, 1st Regular Session



Arizona State Senate Republican Caucus

Weekly Newsletter

Welcome to the Official Arizona Senate Republican Caucus Newsletter! We continue to vote out of the Legislature and send to the Governor our remaining Senate and House bills. We're still working on a state budget and will be in the middle of negotiations with the House and Governor in the coming weeks.

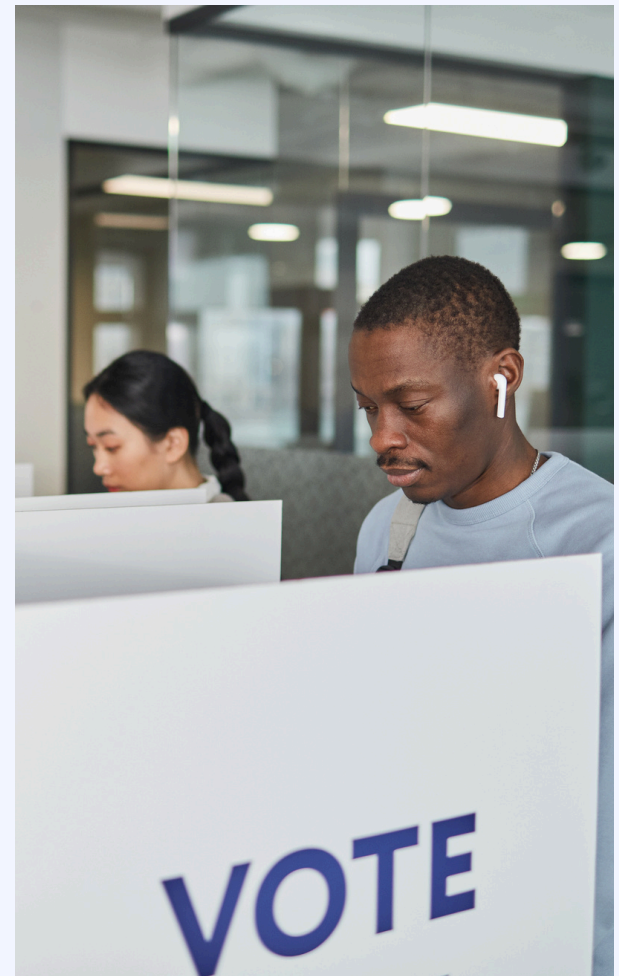




Strengthening Election Integrity Through Voter ID Requirements

By President Warren Petersen

Under my direction, the Arizona Legislature is taking action to strengthen election integrity across the nation by supporting voter identification requirements currently under litigation in Idaho. This week, we joined Montana in leading a coalition of eight other states in an amicus brief filed in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals to defend states' broad authority, entrusted in the U.S. Constitution, to preemptively protect elections from fraud and other unlawful activity. The case stems from a 2023 law enacted by the State of Idaho prohibiting high school and higher education student IDs as accepted forms of identification when registering to vote and cast a ballot. Two radical special interest groups are suing to overturn the law. There is no evidence that the Idaho Legislature is attempting to deprive young people of the right to vote by not including student IDs as acceptable forms of voter identification. Every state has an absolute right to implement voter ID laws through its legislature. Arizona has been at the forefront of this movement to ensure the integrity of our elections' process through the requirement that citizens must produce voter ID when registering and when appearing to vote. Prevention is better than prosecution. A state is not required to wait until fraud occurs in order to take action to ensure fraud is prevented. The Arizona Legislature stands with Idaho and supports its rights to determine what constitutes acceptable forms of identification to register and to vote.





Hobbs Pulls Unqualified Director Nominees

By Senator Jake Hoffman

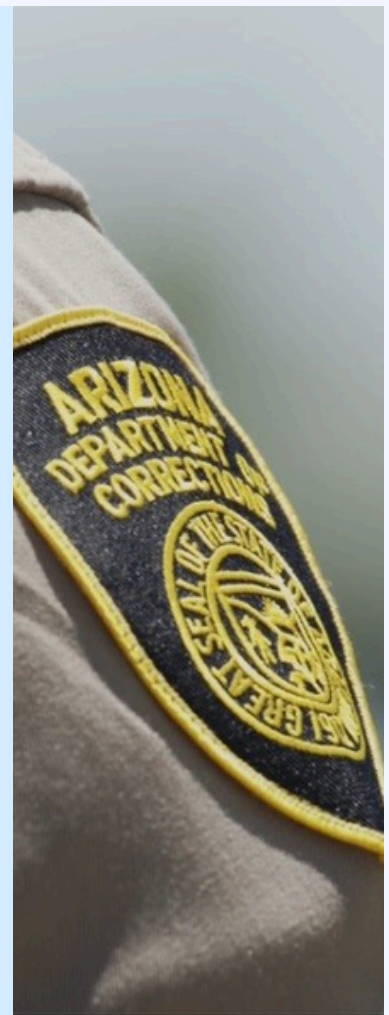
Katie Hobbs announced this week that two unqualified director nominees were withdrawn from their roles heading up state agencies. This is a big win for every Arizonan! During our vetting, the Senate Committee on Director Nominations discovered that Carmen Heredia's tenure at the helm of AHCCCS has been plagued by failures, mismanagement, and fraud. Meanwhile, I had a disastrous one-on-one meeting with Department of Health Services nominee Jennie Cunico, where she double and tripled down on the systemic failures of public health officials during the COVID years, even going so far as to defend policies that even the CDC and WHO have now admitted were wrong and not rooted in science. She was dishonest, combative, engaged in doublespeak, and demonstrated she's out of touch with the priorities of Arizona citizens. Our committee has served as the last line of defense for the people of Arizona against the incompetence and failures of the Hobbs administration. We will continue to faithfully do our job to thoroughly, honestly, and accurately vet Hobbs' nominees, especially since it has become abundantly clear she won't.



Supporting Arizona Correctional Officers

By President Pro Tempore TJ Shope

I had the honor and privilege to celebrate Arizona Correctional Professionals Day with state law enforcement officers at the capitol this week! Arizona's correctional officers and support staff are the unsung heroes of law enforcement, ensuring dangerous criminals who've victimized law-abiding citizens are held in secure facilities, so they are unable to further victimize and can pay back their debts to society. Correctional officers and support staff are also working to provide those who are incarcerated with services to turn their lives around, so that once they are released back into our communities, they are able to provide for themselves and their families in meaningful ways. With the educational, emotional, and spiritual support that they provide to those who are incarcerated, they are equipping these individuals with the tools they need for transformative change and preventing a cycle of repeat offenses from being carried out in our state. At the end of the day, we want law enforcement officers to have confidence in knowing that they are equipped to carry out their job, so they can protect those in custody from harm and return home safely.

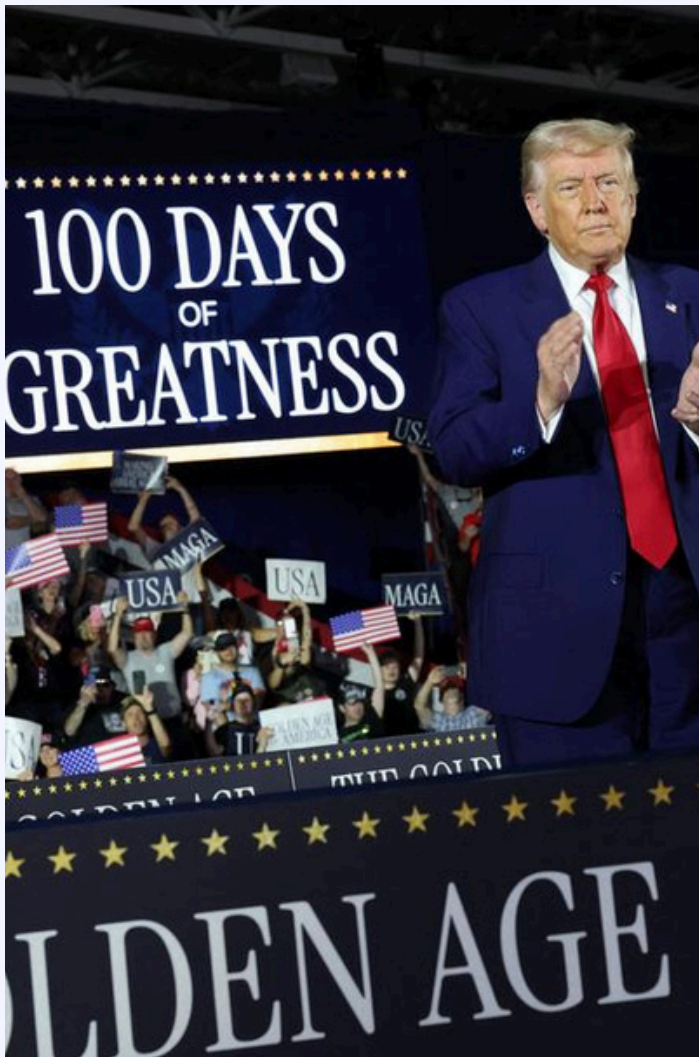




Celebrating President Trump's First 100 Days in Office

By Majority Leader Janae Shamp

Senate Republicans are celebrating President Trump's first 100 days in office, and we continue to support his efforts to Make America Great Again through our Majority Plan. I believe his most impactful action for Arizona so far is his handling of the largest border crisis in our nation's history. Biden rolled out the red carpet to criminal illegal aliens during his time in the White House, but in a matter of days, President Trump cleaned up the mess. Now our border is more secure than it has ever been! We worked to support this mission through the AZ ICE Act, which is derived from pillar one of the Majority Plan: "*securing our cities, from the front door to the border.*" President Trump has also taken action to make America Healthy Again. Under Health Secretary Kennedy, toxic food dyes and additives contributing to chronic diseases are being removed from our foods. To further this initiative, we enacted a new law in Arizona that removes these harmful chemicals from school lunches, which is part of pillar two: "*preserving the American Dream in Arizona.*" If we aren't raising healthy children to become healthy adults, the American dream will become unattainable. There's so much more President Trump has achieved, and I can't wait to see what else he will accomplish during his presidency on behalf of the American people.



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