



March 16, 2024



## PROTECTING ARIZONANS FROM BORDER CRIMES

In her State of the State Address this year, the Governor pledged to fight the crisis at our southern border. Talk is cheap, and unfortunately, her actions haven't matched her words. She made a huge mistake this month by vetoing SB 1231, the Arizona Border Invasion Act. However, we have good news for the Governor and the citizens of Arizona. The Republican-controlled Legislature has made it one of our top priorities to provide our law enforcement the tools they need to keep Arizonans safe from the influx of crime hitting our communities as a result of the Biden Administration's refusal to enforce immigration laws. We will continue to give the Governor opportunities to protect our citizens by putting common sense legislation addressing the border invasion on her desk. We hosted a press conference this week highlighting our next steps. We still have a variety of bills moving through the Legislature to safeguard Arizona. Governor, sign our border bills.



*-President Warren Petersen*

## LIFE IN PRISON FOR CHILD SEX TRAFFICKERS

At least one of those bills addressing border crimes in Arizona won't need Hobbs' signature to become law. I sponsored SCR 1021 to give voters the opportunity to decide in November whether a criminal who engages in child sex trafficking should face life in prison. The ballot referral targets offenders who are convicted of a class 2 felony and would block eligibility for any form of release. I am a mother, wife, and protector of our children. This week, my fellow Republican senators and I took a stand to stop these heinous acts across Arizona by passing this measure out of our chamber. With a wide-open southern border and derelict government agencies, cases of child sex trafficking are on the rise. Republican state lawmakers stand united to send a message to those disgusting animals responsible for stealing our children's innocence-- Arizona's children are our most valuable resource. We would like everyone to know, our children are not for sale. One Arizona child who is victimized is one too many.



*-Senator Shawna Bolick*



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## A FIRSTHAND ACCOUNT OF THE BORDER CRISIS

Pinal County Sheriff Mark Lamb stopped by the Capitol this week to shed light on the border crisis and how legislation, like SB 1608, will help deter associated criminal activity. This bill establishes the use of an electronic device to aid in human smuggling as a class 2 felony. While Pinal County is not directly on the border, they're witnessing border-related crimes daily, especially drug trafficking and human smuggling. He described the situation as "bad as what you've heard, and much worse." He talked about the huge increase in illegal crossings of people from countries like China and Mauritania, which are two main breeding grounds for the terrorist group Al Qaeda. I encourage you to listen to this powerful and eye-opening [discussion](#). Because of Biden's open border policies and Hobbs' refusal to sign commonsense legislation to equip law enforcement with tools to protect our citizens, our state and nation are enduring an invasion of criminals who want to harm Americans.



*-Senator Justine Wadsack*

## SAFEGUARDING ARIZONA FROM ENEMY NATIONS

It was very disappointing to see only Republicans vote in support of a bill that our state's military asked to help protect our citizens, especially because the bill initially received bipartisan support in committee. SB 1403 prohibits organizations in a country determined to be a serious threat to the United States, from owning or leasing property in Arizona. I created this legislation because of real threats Luke Air Force Base has experienced. This base is home to the elite F-35 squadrons that train the world's greatest fighter pilots around the clock to protect our nation. Arizona is also home to the Barry M. Goldwater range in Yuma, which is the third-largest land base in the US. Foreign adversaries have no business buying property near these bases, but this is happening, and it's a threat to national security. Why were Democrats so outraged over Saudis owning Arizona farmland, and yet they have no concern for these other real-time security threats? The answer: political theatre.



*-Senator Janae Shamp*



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## SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT ON WATER

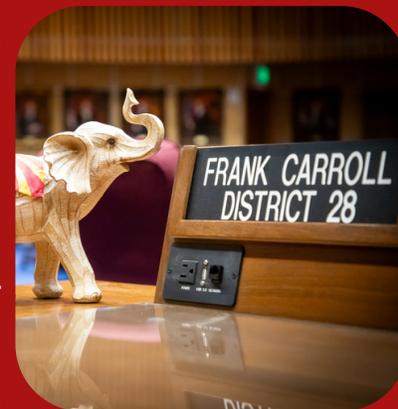
From the start, I've been proactive in spearheading meetings for collaboration from the Governor and her office on SB 1221, which would safeguard Arizona's groundwater resources for generation to come. My goal has and will continue to be to reach a compromise on a solution that won't hurt rural Arizonans' livelihoods, their local economies, or their groundwater supply. Yet this week, Hobbs said she would veto the bill and recklessly called it a convoluted process that won't protect our groundwater. That comment is merely a red herring meant to justify her proposal of big government overreach to regulate groundwater. Rural Arizonans know what will and won't benefit their local economies. I wholeheartedly support this proposal because I've listened and met with farmers, ranchers, and every other person, industry and organization across AZ who felt they were being alienated from the conversation. I believe in true collaboration, and will continue to work to reach a solution.



*-Senator Sine Kerr*

## REPUBLICAN BILLS PASS THE SENATE

We passed more than 30 Senate Republican bills out of our chamber this week, including SB 1361. I sponsored this bill to establish stricter oversight of unlicensed sober living homes. To address the major issues arising from artificial intelligence, I sponsored and the Senate approved SB 1336. This bill would classify the distribution of a fake recording or fake image of a person without their permission as a class 6 or class 4 felony. We also passed SB 1599 to protect Arizonans from fraud by classifying artificial intelligence as a deadly weapon, in order to establish tougher punishments. SCR 1019, a ballot referral asking voters to consider a state ban on hiring, promoting, or providing preferential treatment to employees based on their race or ethnicity, also passed. To address the shortage of campus police and to protect Arizona students, SB 1469 received Senate approval. This bill allows a person who was previously employed as a sworn police officer or veteran to serve as a school resource officer.



*-Senator Frank Carroll*



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