



February 8, 2025

MAKING GIRLS' SPORTS GREAT AGAIN

The war against women and girls is ending. Sanity is being restored thanks to President Trump. I had the honor of joining him this week at the White House when he signed an executive order banning men from competing in women's sports. This is exactly the common sense Arizona and America voted for. Women and girls have been fighting an uphill battle as the radical left has compromised the safety and integrity of female sports by pushing for societal acceptance of boys and men in their athletic competitions. Because of this, Senate Republicans championed the Save Women's Sports Act in 2022 to ensure women and girls have a fair playing field. When Arizona's Attorney General refused to defend this law in court, Republicans stepped in. I personally sat through hours of deposition. The case has made its way to the U.S. Supreme Court where it is awaiting consideration. Because of President Trump, American girls can pursue their dreams. He's making girls' sports great again!



-President Warren Petersen

IMPROVING WILDFIRE READINESS & RESPONSE

The tragic wildfires that consumed thousands of homes in southern California last month are a grim reminder of the dangers communities face when governments ignore their responsibility to provide fire departments with adequate resources to save lives and property. Senator Payne and I are working to strengthen both readiness and response efforts in Arizona by equipping rural and municipal fire departments with funding for needed tools. SB 1297 directs \$6.5 million to the Department of Administration for local fire departments to implement a Fire Incident Management System. This initiative will help equip fire engines with state-of-the-art communications systems to improve coordination between local fire departments, emergency responders, and state authorities. SB 1285 appropriates \$12.5 million to the Department of Forestry for grants that will go to fire districts for the purchase of tactical water tenders, as well as type 3 and type 6 fire engines for wildfire response. Both bills passed committees this week with bipartisan support.



-Senator David Gowan



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PROTECTING ARIZONA FROM FOREIGN ADVERSARIES

Over the last two sessions, I've worked with Luke Airforce Base and a growing number of stakeholders including county recorders, retired military members, and Realtors to craft legislation to protect the mission of our state's four military bases. United States foreign adversaries are buying up land near sensitive military bases across the country, and have attempted to do so here in Arizona. This increases the risk of espionage attacks on our armed forces and critical infrastructure. If you're part of an organization in a country determined to be a direct, serious threat to the United States, then you have no business owning or renting land or property here in Arizona where we train the world's greatest fighter pilots. SB1109 would prohibit such foreign principals from purchasing, owning, leasing, or acquiring land in our state. It's common sense, and it's a matter of national security. This bill passed out of committee this week despite all Democrats voting against it.



-Senator Janae Shamp

CRACKING DOWN ON CHILD SEXUAL PREDATORS

I'm working to hold sexual predators flying under the radar in Arizona's district and charter schools accountable with legislation requiring school board members to report misconduct complaints to law enforcement. SB 1437 is inspired by numerous disturbing cases that have come to light since I began my service as a governing board member for Scottsdale Unified School District. Since the 1995 creation of an investigative unit within the State Board of Education to examine complaints of unprofessional or immoral conduct by educators, sexual predation has been the single largest category of misconduct reported. In 2023 alone, 39% of all cases investigated were sexual misconduct cases. As someone who's entrusted with fostering a safe environment for students on campus, I believe it is a board's obligation to ensure proper reporting of these crimes so that further victimization is prevented. This bill passed out of committee this week with bipartisan support.



-Senator Carine Werner



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ELIMINATING DISCRIMINATORY DEI PRACTICES

Thank God President Trump has shut down discriminatory Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) programs at the federal level. This woke ideology prioritizes skin color, race, and sex in the workplace rather than skills, performance, and experience when making hiring, promoting, and training decisions. In 2022, Governor Ducey signed my legislation to ban this dangerous and demeaning practice in state government. Unfortunately, under Katie Hobbs' leadership, some state agencies have largely ignored this prohibition. SB 1256 expands upon the 2022 law and prohibits the state, or any agencies, boards, and commissions within state government from requiring participation in DEI programs or using DEI programs in the workplace. Republicans are fighting to end these un-American practices and restore merit-based systems, so that only the best and brightest are getting hired and promoted. This commonsense bill passed out of Government Committee this week with all Democrats voting against it. *-Senator Jake Hoffman*



HOLDING HOBBS ACCOUNTABLE

The Hobbs Administration has a track record of engaging in questionable and unethical practices using taxpayer dollars, giving favoritism to those who are close to or have provided benefits to the Governor, her cabinet, and her allies. Arizonans expect their elected officials to make decisions based on what's best for the state and its citizens; not what's best for their own personal agendas and political bank accounts. I introduced SB 1612 this week to hold the Executive Branch accountable and prevent any future conflicts of interest from arising within the state procurement process. The bill removes an exemption allowing AHCCCS to create their own procurement code. It prohibits an agency and state employees from destroying notes created during a request for proposal (RFP). It also requires anyone responding to a state issued RFP or applying for a state administered grant to disclose any donations made to the Governor and campaign affiliates. [Read more on this bill here.](#)



-Senator T.J. Shope



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REDUCING DEATHS AMONG ARIZONA MOMS

I have a young family with three kids under the age of five. When my wife and I decided we wanted children, we began studying pregnancy and everything that goes with it. Along the way, we learned about the tragedy of maternal mortality, as well as other issues mothers may experience around childbirth, like postpartum depression. According to a new report released this month by the CDC, nearly 700 mothers died in 2023 because of pregnancy-related issues. Despite how advanced technology is in the United States, we remain one of the most dangerous high-income nations to have a baby in. I sponsored SB 1316 to establish a commission to look into this issue. It would include a variety of both medical and mental health experts so that we can dive into this issue and figure out if there is anything we can do in Arizona to reduce maternal mortality. I'm happy to report this bill passed out of the Senate Health & Human Services Committee this week with unanimous support.



-Senator J.D. Mesnard

ADVOCATING FOR HEARING & SPEECH ASSISTANCE

I'm proud to share some exciting news from the Senate this week for patients with hearing and speech disabilities. SB 1207 is a bill I've championed to expand coverage of speech therapy and cochlear implants for individuals 21 and older within the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System. This bill received unanimous support in a Health & Human Services Committee last month, and it received near-unanimous support this week in Appropriations Committee. This expansion is a major step towards improving the quality of life for many Arizonans who have long struggled to access the critical care they need for speech and hearing impairments. By providing this healthcare, we're also creating opportunities for people to go back to work if they desire, to talk with their grandchildren, and to experience life to the fullest. This bill will be a part of the larger budget discussion when we get there in a couple of months, but I'm hopeful we will be able to get this bill across the finish line.



-Senator Vince Leach



NAME	DISTRICT	PHONE	EMAIL
SENATOR MARK FINCHEM	LD 1	(602) 926-3631	MFINCHEM@AZLEG.GOV
SENATOR SHAWNNA BOLICK	LD 2	(602) 926-3314	SBOLICK@AZLEG.GOV
SENATOR JOHN KAVANAGH	LD 3	(602) 926-5170	JKAVANAGH@AZLEG.GOV
SENATOR WENDY ROGERS	LD 7	(602) 926-3042	WROGERS@AZLEG.GOV
SENATOR DAVID FARNSWORTH	LD 10	(602) 926-3387	DFARNSWORTH@AZLEG.GOV
SENATOR J.D. MESNARD	LD 13	(602) 926-4481	JMESNARD@AZLEG.GOV
PRESIDENT WARREN PETERSEN	LD 14	(602) 926-4136	WPETERSEN@AZLEG.GOV
SENATOR JAKE HOFFMAN	LD 15	(602) 926-3292	JAKE.HOFFMAN@AZLEG.GOV
PRESIDENT PRO-TEM T.J. SHOPE	LD 16	(602) 926-3012	TSHOPE@AZLEG.GOV
SENATOR VINCE LEACH	LD 17	(602) 926-3694	VLEACH@AZLEG.GOV
SENATOR DAVID GOWAN	LD 19	(602) 926-5154	DGOWAN@AZLEG.GOV
SENATOR TIM DUNN	LD 25	(602) 926-4139	TDUNN@AZLEG.GOV
SENATOR KEVIN PAYNE	LD 27	(602) 926-4854	KPAYNE@AZLEG.GOV
MAJORITY WHIP FRANK CARROLL	LD 28	(602) 926-3249	FCARROLL@AZLEG.GOV
MAJORITY LEADER JANA E SHAMP	LD 29	(602) 926-3499	JSHAMP@AZLEG.GOV
SENATOR HILDY ANGIUS	LD 30	(602) 926-5051	HANGIUS@AZLEG.GOV

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