



February 15, 2025



WILDLY POPULAR ELECTIONS BILL HEADS TO HOBBS
As promised, the first bill of the year we're sending to the Governor is our wildly popular election integrity bill to get faster results. SB 1011/ HB 2703 just passed the Legislature, and most counties support the policy. Arizona is the laughingstock of the nation for how long it takes us to count votes. Recent polling shows most Arizona voters want us to speed up vote counting. According to Maricopa County, if this legislation is signed into law, 95% of votes cast in this county will be reported on election night. We should no longer have to wait weeks to determine winners and losers. This bill will improve voter confidence and end frustration. To ensure voters aren't disenfranchised, the bill adds three additional days of early voting: the Saturday, Sunday, and Monday before Election Day, which were previously limited to emergency voting only. The bill also mandates public schools be used as voting locations to expand opportunities to vote. I'm hopeful the Governor will listen to Arizona voters and sign the bill. *-President Warren Petersen*



PROTECTING ARIZONANS FROM CRIMINAL ILLEGAL ALIENS
The federal detention system is over maximum capacity as the Trump Administration continues to arrest criminal illegal aliens by the droves in our communities. A bill I sponsored, to lease the empty Marana Prison for a dollar a year to the feds to help hold these individuals before deportation, passed out of Military Affairs & Border Security Committee this week, but Senators Burch, Miranda, and Gonzales all voted 'no' on the measure. Considering an overwhelming majority of Arizona voters sent a clear message last November by passing the Secure the Border Act, I was quite surprised this bill did not receive bipartisan support. Instead, Senate Democrats dealt a slap in the face to Arizona's law-abiding citizens by introducing one of the most radical bills in the nation to make Arizona a sanctuary state for criminal illegal aliens. SB 1362 blocks state, county, and local law enforcement from arresting criminal illegal aliens. As long as Republicans control the Legislature, you can rest assured dangerous bills like this one won't see the light of day. *-Senator John Kavanagh*





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DEMOCRATS WANT NON-CITIZENS COUNTED IN US CENSUS

Radical Senate Democrats proved just how radical they really are during testimony in Government Committee this week. While debating SCR 1022, a ballot referral I've sponsored to require only US citizens in Arizona be counted during the census, Senators Kuby and Sundaresan expressed their interpretation of "residents" in the US Constitution to include illegal aliens. I do not believe that our Founding Fathers intended for non-US citizens, who we've had millions over the last four years enter our country illegally at the hands of Democrats and the Biden regime, to be counted when determining representation here at the legislature, or any other state legislature for that matter. President Trump is deporting undocumented people in mass numbers because they are not supposed to be here. Democrats argued if we don't count non-US citizens in the census, we'll lose out on federal funding. They have clearly lost their minds if they think illegal aliens should have representation at the Capitol. -Senator Jake Hoffman



PROVIDING PAY RAISES TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

Senate Republicans continue to support Arizona's law enforcement in a variety of ways to ensure they have the resources and support they need to keep Arizona safe. I am proud to be co-sponsoring SB 1061, which would give 15% pay raises to law enforcement officers. Backed by the support of Republicans, SB 1061 passed out of committee this week. But we're not stopping there; I'm also sponsoring SB 1144 that works to secure long-term funding for jail facilities by extending the jail excise tax before it expires. If approved by voters in 2028, this tax would be extended for up to 20 years, giving correctional facilities the support they need to manage criminals and protect our communities. Together these efforts are just the beginning of how Republicans plan to support those who put their lives on the line for us every day. I am dedicated to restoring the respect for law enforcement that has been stripped by the left, giving our officers the recognition and support they deserve for the crucial role they play in keeping our citizens safe. -Senator Kevin Payne





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PREVENTING CALIFORNIA-STYLE BLACKOUTS

I'm working to ensure Arizonans have a reliable power supply, during the scorching summer months in the desert and the freezing winter months in the high country, with legislation to prevent California-style blackouts from occurring in the Grand Canyon State. Across the nation, solar and wind power are gradually replacing electricity produced from coal, natural gas, and oil. Solar and wind are generally considered less reliable power sources because their output is not guaranteed and is dependent on weather factors like abundant sunshine or increased wind speeds. I sponsored SB 1309 to require the Arizona Corporation Commission to ensure that any changes made to an electric power grid are capable of producing enough electricity to meet the demand for power in the summer and winter months. The bill also requires a power generation resource mix that avoids both blackouts and brownouts unrelated to severe weather conditions. The bill passed out of committee this week.



-Senator Frank Carroll

MAKING ARIZONA HEALTHY AGAIN

In line with the Trump Administrations' goal to give Americans a fighting chance at achieving optimal wellness, Senate Republicans are working to advance a "Make Arizona Healthy Again" agenda. As a perioperative nurse, I have witnessed firsthand instances of corruption within the healthcare system, big companies using power and influence to impact state agency operations, as well as negligent government actions leading to negative health consequences for Arizonans. America is an unhealthy nation. People are dying at alarming rates because of malpractice within our healthcare institutions, corporate greed, and irresponsible government policies. In accordance with the [Senate Majority Plan](#), I have introduced several pieces of legislation that focus on preserving the American Dream in Arizona through healthcare reform, addressing areas like prescription drug coverage, gender transition procedures on minors, and banning harmful ingredients in school lunches. Stay tuned for updates!



-Senator Janae Shamp



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BIPARTISAN BILLS PASS OUT OF COMMITTEES

Legislation is on the move this week with a number of bipartisan bills, sponsored by Republicans, passing out of their respective committees. As the Chairwoman of the Health and Human Services Committee, I've advanced legislation to address Arizona's doctor shortage and strengthen parental rights in schools. SB 1623 provides more than \$28 million in state and federal dollars to expand physician residency programs for graduate medical students. SB 1443 would strengthen the Parents' Bill of Rights by empowering parents in decisions regarding their child's health and well-being. Sponsored by Senator Angius, SB 1312 works to improve the reentry process for citizens who are transitioning from incarceration back into society. Additionally, Senator Bolick's bill, SB 1449, aims to protect crime victims with lifetime injunctions against their perpetrators. All of these initiatives passed their respective committee with bipartisan support and will continue heading to the Senate floor.



-Senator Carine Werner

INCREASING TRANSPARENCY IN 3RD PARTY LAWSUITS

Republicans continue to push for reforms to shine a light on third-party lawsuit financing, by reintroducing legislation that failed to get support from the democratic governor last session. Third-party litigation funding is when an entity finances a lawsuit in return for a portion of the settlement or awarded damages. I am sponsoring [SB 1215](#) to require funding agreements to be disclosed to the court and every party involved. Far too often, third-party funders are influencing the outcome of cases and collecting higher proceeds than any of the involved parties. With my legislation, proper disclosures will be required, preserving the control of Arizona consumers. Arizonans deserve a legal system that prioritizes fairness and transparency in the courtroom, and I'm committed to making that happen. Although we have a governor who has developed a pattern of rejecting transparency, I sincerely hope commonsense legislation like this will finally receive her signature.



-Senator Vince Leach



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