



July 8, 2023

PUSHING BACK AGAINST HOBBS' POWER GRAB

In response to Governor Hobbs' unconstitutional executive order stripping county attorneys of their power to handle abortion-related cases and transferring that power to Attorney General Mayes, 12 county attorneys wrote a letter to Hobbs on Monday requesting she rescinds the illegal directive. In fact, out of those 12 county attorneys, four are Democrats. They aren't the only ones from Hobbs' party speaking out against her unlawful power grab. Arizona Republic opinion columnist Laurie Roberts, a staunch supporter of Democrats, wrote this week "Gov. Hobbs is not the queen and has no business telling the state's 15 elected county attorneys they can't enforce the state's law." We agree. This is why the Republican Legislative Majority will provide support to these county attorneys as needed in the fight to enforce constitutional separation of powers.



RIO VERDE FOOTHILLS WATER UPDATE

I'm happy to report progress is being made in the effort to provide the community of Rio Verde Foothills in my district with water service once again. As you may recall, SB 1432 was signed into law last month and establishes a new government entity called the Standpipe District to provide these homes with water for up to three years. This past week, Senate President Warren Petersen appointed Michael Miola to the Standpipe District Board of Directors. He's one of five within the newly formed board responsible for entering into an agreement with a water provider for these residents. For the last 18 years, Mr. Miola has owned Silver Spurs Equine, with ranches in both Arizona and Oklahoma. He also serves as the director of the Rio Verde Horseman Association and has been a resident of the Rio Verde Foothills since 2013. He will be a valuable asset to this board.



- Senator John Kavanagh



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PROTECTING HOMEOWNERS

Over the past few years, the state has documented numerous cases of homeowners falling victim to deed fraud or title theft, where scammers are selling homes right out from underneath the owners. This session, I teamed up with Senator Wendy Rogers and co-sponsored SB 1110, which passed out of the Legislature with broad bipartisan support and was signed into law. This new legislation allows individuals to opt into a system that requires county recorders to send a notification if the individual is a named party in a recorded instrument. This includes any action taken against a person's title. The notice will be sent promptly via email, text message, or other similar means. There are organizations providing services at cost to notify a homeowner before this fraud can occur, but I don't believe people should have to pay for this protection. The better solution is to have a county system in place.



- Senator Justine Wadsack



ASSISTING OUR SENIOR COMMUNITY

This year, I had the opportunity to work with Leading Age AZ on SB 1157 to help our senior community in Arizona. Leading Age AZ is a non-profit that helps with housing, hospitality, healthcare and community based services for seniors. This legislation, which has since been signed into law, will mandate that assisted living facilities and hospitals exchange written discharge plans on patients. The lack of required communication between hospitals and assisted living communities was causing serious issues and putting patients' health at risk. Although I don't serve as a legislator for the recognition, I was both proud and grateful to receive Leading Age AZ's Legislator of the Year Award for sponsoring this bill and getting it signed into law. I'll always stand up for our elderly community and others who need assistance in their daily lives.



- Senator T.J. Shope





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2023 IMPACT AWARDS

It was an honor to receive the Greater Phoenix Chamber's Sentinel Award last week at the 2023 IMPACT Awards! The award recognizes elected state and local officials for their outstanding legislative and regulatory work on behalf of the business community in the greater Phoenix region. The Greater Phoenix Chamber has recognized the accomplishments of businesses and the impact they've made for over three decades. My husband Bill and I attended the reception and had a wonderful time! This year, I've served on nearly a dozen committees at the Legislature, helping to create solutions to issues regarding water, energy, natural resources and education. These are issues I'm tremendously passionate about, and they all play a role in the health of our state's business community and economy. I'm truly grateful to have made an impact through my work.



- Senator Sine Kerr

FLYING OLD GLORY FOR OUR VETERANS

I'm proud to have participated in an incredible effort this week, led by Glendale Mayor Jerry Weiers, to honor our Veterans across the country. We ventured to the Capitol in Oklahoma to fly a U.S. flag made in Arizona as part of a tribute tour where Mayor Weiers hopes to fly this flag at all 50 State Capitols before the nation celebrates the 250th anniversary of the 1776 U.S. Declaration of Independence in 2026. He's hit more than 20 states so far, and I was honored to have accompanied him and his grandson Connor on this trip. Once the flag has flown at each Capitol and the national tour is complete, Mayor Weiers hopes to submit Old Glory to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. to commemorate our American men and women who've served in our armed forces. What a special tribute for those heroes!



- Senator David Gowan



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