



July 15, 2023

COMMUNICATION WITH HOBBS

Following a slew of concerning executive orders by the Governor, Senate President Warren Petersen wrote a letter to Hobbs requesting a meeting to discuss her questionable actions and the role of her state agency directors. President Petersen met with her on Friday, July 7th, and the discussion went well. While there must be consequences for overreaching executive action, Senate Republicans are optimistic on finding a way to move forward in a bipartisan manner that benefits all of Arizona, and intend on continuing to confirm qualified director nominees. Negotiations are also continuing between the Senate, House and Governor's Office with the common objective to pass a Prop 400 extension before sine die. Republicans are committed to delivering a true extension of the economic development tool Maricopa County has relied upon to fund transportation projects the last 40 years.



STUDY COMMITTEES ON WATER, AIR AND ENERGY

I co-chaired two committees this week covering a variety of important topics regarding our state's natural resources. During the Joint Legislative Ad Hoc Study Committee on Water Security, we learned more about the groundwater modeling process and heard from the city of Tucson on how they've been able to be proactive on their groundwater issues through innovation and foresight. During the Joint Legislative Ad Hoc Study Committee on Air Quality and Energy, we heard from the Director of the ADEQ Air Quality Division on the State process of the State Implementation Plan to enforce air quality standards. The Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry also shared about the challenges of the recommended control measures by MAG to achieve the EPA's new ozone standards. I'm proud to say we at the Legislature are working diligently on these issues that are so critical for Arizona.



- Senator Sine Kerr





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PROTECTING ARIZONA'S ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS

This year, the Arizona Chamber identified 67 "Job Killer" bills that would have imposed substantial new taxes, costs, or administrative burdens on Arizona businesses had they been signed into law. Commonsense Institute Arizona created a report with that information that showed the impact these bills would have had on our state's economy by taking a look at the state of Colorado, which enacted many of the policies on the list. They found Arizona would have 113,500 fewer workers and an economy that was \$9.5B smaller from 2019 until now. This is a great example of why policy matters. Arizona has built on years of sound policy under Republican leadership that has helped grow our state's economy. We'll continue to do everything we can to protect Arizona citizens and our economy from the type of policies that have negatively impacted Colorado.



- President Warren Petersen



FREE SPEECH AT ARIZONA'S PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

I am proud to be the co-chairman of the Joint Legislative Ad Hoc Committee on Freedom of Expression at Arizona's Public Universities that will convene Tuesday to examine events surrounding a program titled "Health, Wealth & Happiness," presented by Arizona State University's T.W. Lewis Center, as well as the subsequent closing of the Lewis Center in June. Author and talk show host, Dennis Prager, and former Lewis Center Director, Ann Atkinson, will be among the individuals sharing their testimony. We've also extended invitations to ASU faculty and administration who opposed the program. It's incredibly important that our state's universities support their students and guests sharing their opinions and viewpoints. We want to create an environment for individuals involved in this situation to share their sides of the story to better understand what occurred with this program and the impacts it may have had on future freedom of expression.



- Senator Anthony Kern





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DENTAL PATIENT SAFETY

There was a recent article in the Arizona Capitol Times regarding the lack of oversight and accountability for dentists that was truly eye-opening. The article, produced by the Howard Center for Investigative Journalism, shares stories of several people, including young children, who have died due to dental procedures in Arizona. It goes on to say, "Details about problem dentists are hidden under layers of bureaucracy, a tangled complaint system, and a public-facing website that is virtually un navigable." Lack of oversight and accountability in dental offices is something I aimed to address with my bill, SB 1602 which was signed into law this session, and something Representative Selena Bliss and I have made a priority to improve. As healthcare professionals, we are working to ensure patients are safe and needed reform is done, and thanks to our state's Auditor General and Dental Board Executive Director Ryan Edmonson, we've been able to make impactful steps forward.



- Senator Janae Shamp

TRUE LIBERTY CONFERENCE

My wife Joanne and I had the pleasure of attending the True Liberty Conference's Gratitude Session last weekend, where I was among several of my fellow Republican Legislators recognized for fighting for medical freedom. The Liberty & Health Alliance exists to serve humanity through the promotion of medical freedom and the uncensored liberty to speak without recrimination while upholding God's methods as the best means of optimizing physical, mental, and spiritual health. The organization put on a tremendous event, transforming the Phoenix Convention Center into a mobile hospital for the "True Liberty" Mega-Clinic and Conference. During this 4-day event, more than 2,000 people received around \$11 million worth of free services including medical, dental and vision care.



- Senator Frank Carroll



NAME	DISTRICT	PHONE	EMAIL
SENATOR KEN BENNETT	LD 1	(602) 926-5874	KBENNETT@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
SENATE 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 JUSTINE WADSACK	LD 17	(602) 926-3106	JWADSACK@AZLEG.GOV
SENATOR DAVID GOWAN	LD 19	(602) 926-5154	DGOWAN@AZLEG.GOV
MAJORITY WHIP SINE KERR	LD 25	(602) 926-5955	SKERR@AZLEG.GOV
SENATOR ANTHONY KERN	LD 27	(602) 926-3497	AKERN@AZLEG.GOV
SENATOR FRANK CARROLL	LD 28	(602) 926-3249	FCARROLL@AZLEG.GOV
SENATOR JANA E SHAMP	LD 29	(602) 926-3499	JSHAMP@AZLEG.GOV
MAJORITY LEADER SONNY BORRELLI	LD 30	(602) 926-5051	SBORRELLI@AZLEG.GOV

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