



November 18, 2023

## REPUBLICANS PROPOSE TEACHER PAY RAISES

Last session, we provided inflationary relief to families with the Arizona Families Tax Rebate, as well as to tenants by eliminating the tenant-paid rental tax. In 2024, we'll remain laser-focused on tackling inflation by addressing gas prices, housing costs, and teacher pay raises. This week, we announced the "Teacher Pay Fund," a plan the Republican-controlled Legislature will send to the ballot next November to provide K-12 public school teachers with raises averaging 7%, or approximately \$4000. This will be done without a tax increase. The dedicated funding source for this will be the Land Trust Endowment, which is constitutionally protected for education spending only. This fund has grown exponentially over the years and is projected to continue to grow. We want to ensure our kids receive a great education and a quality teacher in every classroom. This is a step in the right direction.



*-President Warren Petersen*

## SECURING OUR WATER FUTURE

It's been one year since I championed legislation providing a historic \$1 billion investment to secure Arizona's water future. Part of that effort designated the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority as the statewide entity responsible for managing those dollars to ensure Arizona families, businesses, home builders, farmers, and ranchers continue to have an adequate water supply for the next 100 years. I'm incredibly proud of the water conservation projects that have already been approved, and the immense water-savings they'll provide our state. With lawmakers' collaborative approach, I believe Arizona will continue to be a national leader in water management. I look forward to the amazing work WIFA will continue to do on behalf of all Arizona citizens, and I'm eagerly working on policy for next session that will strengthen the foundation we've already built. Our best days in water security are yet to come!



*-Senator Sine Kerr*



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## SPOTLIGHTING THE BORDER CRISIS

I recently took a trip to Washington D.C. to shed light on the dire situation at our southern border for members of Congress. I've lived in Cochise County for 30 years, and this is the highest incursion I've ever seen. With an unprecedented amount of illegal aliens entering our borders every day, we need to take action, and we need to support our law enforcement. Front-line officers across the southern border are in need of more resources, and we must provide them with the tools they need to do their job. President Biden's open borders pose a threat not only to our national security, but the safety of our communities. The rise in drug and human trafficking is devastating. U.S. Customs and Border protection is seizing 860% more fentanyl compared to a few years ago. Whether it comes to fighting for commonsense policies that our country lacks under the current administration, or bringing awareness to the border crisis, I will continue to fight to protect Arizonans.



*-Senator David Gowan*

## A POSITIVE CHANGE WITH ASU ATHLETICS

The decision for ASU athletics director, Ray Anderson, to step down from his position this week was the right one. As a proud Arizona State alum and Sun Devil fan, I've been troubled for some time by the administration he led during his near decade-long tenure. The questionable hiring of his friend and former client Herm Edwards as head football coach, the multimillion-dollar buyout of Mr. Edwards, and the self-imposed bowl ban had fans scratching their heads. In August, I wrote a letter to the Board of Regents calling for an investigation into Anderson's unsettling actions, but this latest development demonstrates efforts to restore ASU's athletic department into an entity of pride for Sun Devil Nation. This move is not only a long time coming, it's a move fans and athletes deserve. The ASU fanbase is united in their support for the Sun Devils, and many of us now have hope that this program will get back on solid footing.



*-Senator T.J. Shope*



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