

YELLOW SHEET REPORT

NEWS NOTES AND GOSSIP

NO RUSH, LAWMAKERS, WE STILL HAVE 7 WORKDAYS

House and Senate leaders hope to start moving again on the budget next week with a new deal that gained tentative support from Boyer, though Cook remains in question and some conservatives might still balk at it. Republicans are holding small-group meetings this afternoon to gauge support. Bowers originally said the House could possibly even vote tonight if leadership believed the deal can get all 31 Republicans on the same page, though that turned out to be another false hope as both chambers adjourned until Monday. Boyer told our reporter whether there's a deal depends on Cook, but he thinks the budget deal is there or at least close. Cook

told our reporter via text that he hadn't seen the deal but had presented House leaders with his own plan, which would include the largest debt reduction in the state's history. Other sources said the deal won't contain Ducey's preferred 2.5 percent flat tax and 4.5 percent maximum rate, but would include tax cuts of roughly \$1.2 billion annually. A memo drafted by economist Jim Rounds that circulated in the Capitol in recent days contained the same price tag and recommended making only the first step of the flat-tax phase-in, creating two brackets of 2.55 and 2.98 percent, with a top maximum rate of 5.5 percent. Ducey, however, is still pushing his flat tax and held a telephonic town hall with Toma and Mesnard as small-group meetings were ongoing in the Senate. Even if Cook and Boyer agree, its passage isn't guaranteed. Ugenti-Rita, for instance, has tweeted that she would prefer a tax rebate instead of ongoing cuts, and a cadre of House Republicans wants less spending. Townsend said this week that she prefers a skinny budget while waiting for a new audit of Prop 208 results.

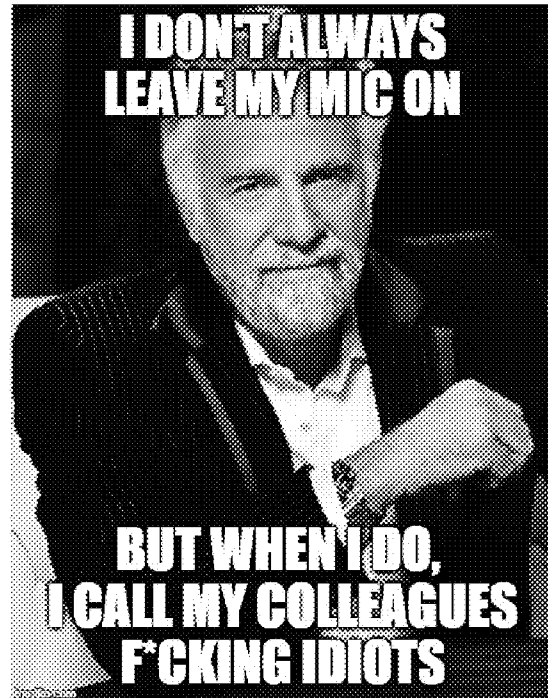


#FORWEALTHYARIZONANS WOULD BE MORE HONEST

Meanwhile, Ducey and his office have been in full-court press mode attempting to build public support for his proposed \$1.9 billion tax cut. The push ramped up on Twitter this week as lawmakers moved through a wildfire special session. The clock has been ticking to complete a budget before having to face a government shutdown – partial or otherwise ([YS, 6/14](#)). In several tweets yesterday, Ducey shared graphics with quotes from several Arizonans throwing their full-fledged support behind the tax cut that they say benefits small businesses and all Arizonans. While that's true, it leaves out how it disproportionately benefits the wealthiest taxpayers. Someone earning even \$75,000 to \$100,000 would save \$230, while someone making more than \$1 million in adjusted gross income would save at least \$46,000. Other middle-to-lower income Arizonans would save enough to fill up a gas tank once or less. In one of several tweets the governor slugged with a #ForArizonans hashtag, Ducey cited a random Scottsdale dentist who supports the tax cuts. "We need to make Arizona a business friendly state to compete against Texas and Florida," Steven Poulous, a dentist for My Scottsdale Dentist, wrote, parroting Ducey's talking points ([LINK](#)). Ducey's Office today sent out an email asking people to support his tax cut plan and urge their legislators to vote for it ([LINK](#)). #ForArizonans has seemingly turned into a full campaign to earn public support over scrutiny over the plan, and Ducey used the hashtag at least 17 times in the last day. Even Grover Norquist used the hashtag today ([LINK](#)).

NOT THE SINE DIE WE WANT – THE SINE DIE WE DESERVE

Lawmakers adjourned the special session today after passing the \$100 million emergency fire appropriation, but not without some bipartisan opposition, a few hostile amendments and a hot mic F-bomb. Ugenti-Rita was the lone Republican to vote against H2001 (appropriations; fire suppression) (Chaplik, Grantham Townsend and Pace all did not vote.) Ugenti-Rita said she opposed it purely because it was heard in a special session and reminded colleagues that she and others asked repeatedly for a special session last year to work on Covid, responding to both the health crisis and Ducey’s reactions to it. Ducey and leaders blocked opportunities for the Legislature to return in a special session last year, and so calling one for the wildfire bill is a slap in the face to Arizonans who suffered through the pandemic and lockdowns, she said. “I cannot condone this misuse of a special session,” she said. The Democrats from LD26 all opposed the bill, and Mendez told our reporter yesterday it’s all “political theater.” The special session is intended to make it look like the Legislature is doing work and working in a bipartisan manner, but it won’t stop the underlying problems that lead to worse wildfires, he said. “They’re embarrassed by the fact that they can’t get their caucus to agree on funding the government,” he said. Before passing H2001 (appropriations; fire suppression), the House rejected on a party-line vote a Cano amendment to set aside \$5 million to help small businesses affected by wildfires. Cook called the vote a waste of time and said lawmakers should focus on people like his neighbors who need help immediately. “I’m down here again in a Twilight Zone on something that doesn’t have the votes,” he said. Before voting for the appropriation, Democrats hammered that it does nothing to address what they see as the underlying cause of the fires: climate change. Livingston, who participates remotely from Michigan since the Legislature returned from recess, interrupted Otondo’s comments about climate change with a profane aside. “Yeah, you’re a f*cking idiot,” Livingston mumbled. It’s unclear whether he was speaking about Otondo or something happening off screen, and he was muted after Fann reminded him that the Senate could hear him. Fann today bristled at the suggestion that he was addressing anyone in the Senate, but didn’t clarify who, if not a senator, is a “f*cking idiot.” “Once again media doesn’t have the whole story but stirs the pot. All is fine. Comments were not directed to anyone at senate and no one was laughing at anyone,” she tweeted. It’s not the first time Zoom audio caught senators off guard – Alston is regularly heard mumbling about bills, though her comments are decidedly more G-rated, and Fann dropped an F-bomb during a remote interim committee last summer.



WE MAY NOT HAVE RUSTY TO KICK AROUND NEXT YEAR

Organizers of an effort to recall Bowers scheduled an appointment with the Secretary of State’s Office at 4:30 this afternoon to deliver their petitions, Murphy Hebert, spokeswoman for Hobbs’ office, told our reporter. The “Patriot Party of Arizona” is organizing the effort, angry at Bowers over his not calling a special session in response to Ducey’s anti-Covid emergency measures and his lack of support for efforts to overturn Biden’s win in the state. They need 22,331 valid signatures from voters in LD25 to spark a recall election on one of the consolidated election dates in 2022, in either March or May.

EVERY SUCCESSFUL POLITICIAN STARTED AS A LACY WHO

Republican Lacy Cooper jumped into the open attorney general race today, though the reaction from at least one Republican lawyer was “Lacy who?” Cooper, who recently served in the US Attorney’s Office in Arizona, launched her campaign focusing on Republican voters’ top issue – the border. In her announcement video ([LINK](#)), Cooper touts her bona fides catching bad guys at the border and beyond. “From the boardroom to the border, I’ve seen a lot of bad guys. It doesn’t matter who you are, if you break the law, I’m gonna put you behind bars,” she said.



Cooper has some expertise to back up her strong words about border security: She was the border security section chief at the USAO until she left the post recently for private practice. Cooper also was a finalist for the Maricopa County Attorney appointment that went to Allister Adel in 2019. Her status as a relative political unknown might not be much of a hangup, as the other Republican candidates in the race so far, former Arizona Supreme Court Justice Andrew Gould and twice-failed CD1 candidate Tiffany Shedd on the Republican side, also lack name ID. Rodney Glassman and Dawn Grove, the Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry board chair, are the two Republicans receiving the most buzz about entering the race, and Glassman will almost by default be the most recognizable name because he’s on just about every election ballot running for whatever is open. Democrats have been mostly silent on the bench after 2018 candidate January Contreras announced she would not run again. So far, Rodriguez is the lone candidate on the Democratic side.

STEVE FARLEY IS WORKING ON A BILL AS WE SPEAK

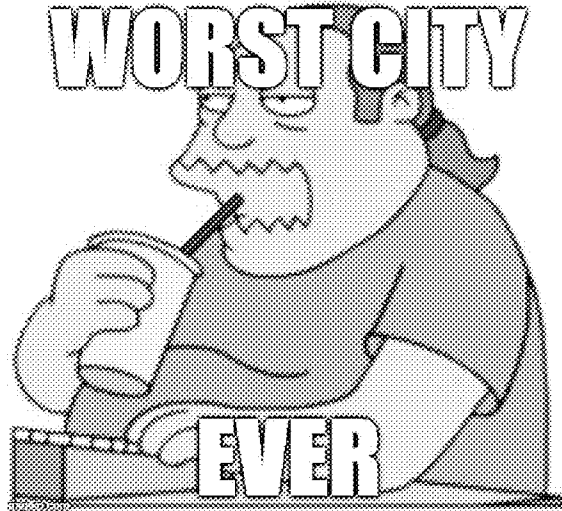


In an apparent attempt to one-up Finchem’s voting while driving yesterday, Grantham today attempted to vote via text while flying an airplane. Grantham, who is an officer in the Arizona Air National Guard, tried to cast his vote to oppose a Democratic amendment to the wildfire funding bill today while flying. After Democrats complained that voting via text is not allowed and grumbled that there would be no way to even verify that it’s Grantham, Bowers ended up reversing himself and not counting Grantham’s vote. Meanwhile, Townsend said she plans to ask Legislative Council for an opinion on whether people

can Zoom and drive because of Finchem’s surprise committee vote from the road yesterday ([YS, 6/15](#)). In a Twitter exchange with our reporter yesterday ([LINK](#)), Townsend asked whether Finchem’s phone was mounted on his dashboard (it appeared to be, which would make it legal to do an audio call) and then shared one of the statutes affected by Laws 2019, Chapter 112 (H2318: driving; wireless communication device; prohibition) that doesn’t mention video. Our reporter sent her the relevant statute, which states that drivers can’t use video, with exceptions for things like dash cams and rear-view cameras that assist with backing out of a parking space. Townsend said she would ask Legislative Council to clarify the statute, which states that a person may use a device to continuously record or broadcast video inside or outside the vehicle.

WE STILL WOULDN'T MISS KINGMAN

Kelly has teamed up with Republican Sen John Thune of Wyoming to introduce legislation to stop a statistical change that could affect rural communities' access to federal funds. The Office of Management and Budget has proposed changing what constitutes a Metropolitan Statistical Area, requiring metros to have a core population of 100,000, up from the current requirement of 50,000 (YS, 4/2). That would drop the number of metros in the US from 392 to about 142, with communities not making the cut redesignated as micropolitan statistical areas. While the shift was presented as merely a statistical change, smaller communities worry about broader implications. The MSA classification is often used in program funding formulas for things like Community Development Block Grants, USDA Rural Development funds and federal transportation dollars. If the change were to take effect, four communities in Arizona would fall off the list of metropolitan statistical areas: Prescott Valley-Prescott, Flagstaff, Sierra Vista-Douglas and Lake Havasu City-Kingman. "I've heard concerns from Mayors across Arizona about how this policy change could impact their ability to support their communities by qualifying for federal transportation, housing, and other funds," Kelly said in a prepared statement. "That's why I'm introducing this bipartisan legislation to ensure communities can get the support they need to continue to grow and prosper." Mignonne Hollis, executive director of Arizona Regional Economic Development Foundation, started ringing alarm bells earlier this year, saying that the change would force rural communities to fight each other over dollars and hurt their ability to attract businesses. Some datasets gather information by MSA, not by county or other category, so communities that lose the designation could lose access to that information about their communities in the future. Hollis applauded Kelly's Metropolitan Statistical Area Preservation Act. "This important legislation is critical to rural communities across Arizona," Hollis said in an email to our reporter. "Our communities depend on the federal support that this bill will protect." Kelly and Sinema had previously joined other lawmakers in signing a letter to the OMB asking that it not adopt the change.



ASK STEVE SMITH ABOUT THAT

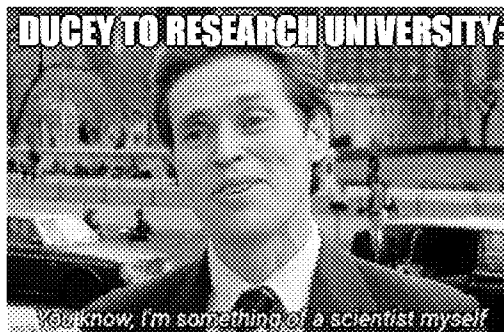


Chaplik and former lawmaker Jay Lawrence are heading to a full jury trial over Chaplik's lawsuit alleging Lawrence slandered him repeatedly in their 2020 primary campaign by calling him a "tax deadbeat, tax cheat and criminal" (YS, 9/24/20). Chaplik has also claimed Lawrence deliberately and with malice misstated his NRA rating and falsely accused him of being the subject of a civil rights lawsuit. Maricopa County Superior Court judge Theodore Campagnolo set the four-day trial to begin at 9:30 am on Nov 28, 2022

(the pandemic has caused a backlog for jury trials). During the campaign, Lawrence accused Chaplik of felony extortion, claiming he offered to drop the lawsuit in exchange for an endorsement, though Lawrence later said Chaplik changed course and just wanted an apology, which Lawrence refused to give (YS, 10/21/20).

WHAT DO UNIVERSITIES KNOW ABOUT SCIENCE?

Universities will comply with Ducey's executive order disallowing universities from requiring more stringent health measures on students who are not vaccinated against Covid. Ducey's order says students may not be mandated to get the vaccine or submit vaccination documents, undergo regular tests or wear a mask to learn on campus in-person. "Arizona's public universities will comply with the governor's executive order," ABOR Chair Larry Penley said in a press release. "The health and well-being of our students, faculty and staff remains an utmost priority for the board and we will work with the governor to ensure our universities remain open and continue to provide voluntary testing and vaccinations for campuses and members of the community as we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic." Several lawmakers threatened the university's budget if it didn't repeal the rule.



WAKE UP CALL

Salmon joins crowded GOP gubernatorial race

Capitol Media Services

Matt Salmon, who came within 11,819 votes of becoming governor nearly two decades ago, is making another bid for the office.

House, Senate panels pass wildfire relief amid debate on climate change

Capitol Media Services

Legislative panels gave initial approval Wednesday to a \$100 million plan for fighting fires and their effects, but not before the discussion strayed into the question of climate change and whether humans are responsible for the heat and drought conditions that result in huge blazes.

Coconino County moves to increase primary/secondary property taxes

Arizona Daily Sun

Coconino County is looking to increase levies for both the primary and secondary property taxes.

NAACP leader wants more from Mesa police

East Valley Tribune

Kiana Sears, president of the East Valley NAACP, said she is optimistic about an ongoing dialogue with the Mesa Police Department but expects more accountability and transparency.

Winds lead Telegraph Fire to spread, PCSO puts more communities on alert

Florence Reminder-Blade Tribune

The Pinal County Sheriff's Office has put the communities of Ray Mine, Riverside, Kearny, Winkelman and Hayden on "Ready" status for possible evacuation due to the spreading Telegraph Fire.

Pending state budget includes funds to close Florence prison

Florence Reminder-Blade Tribune

Funding to close Arizona State Prison-Florence Complex over the next three fiscal years is included in a budget bill pending in the state Legislature.

Fire restrictions increased to Stage 2

Mohave Valley Daily News

Because of dry and hot conditions, fire restrictions have been increased from Stage 1 to Stage 2 on Bureau of Land Management lands in the Phoenix District — BLM-managed lands in central Arizona; in the Colorado River District — BLM-managed lands in western Arizona; and on Gila District-managed lands in Navajo and Apache counties.

New education tax again survives, high court appeal pending

Associated Press

A trial court judge on Tuesday threw out several legal challenges to a new voter approved tax on high-earning Arizonans, leaving just one additional issue raised by challengers to Proposition 208 in play while the state Supreme Court is considering whether the measure is constitutional.

Climate Change Batters the West Before Summer Even Begins

New York Times

Global warming has been fueling disasters in the region for years. Now, an early heat wave and severe drought are threatening lives and leaving water in perilously short supply.

Ducey ditches ‘things that matter’ to Arizonans so the rich can be richer

Arizona Mirror (Opinion, Julie Erfle)

In the not-so-distant past (two years ago), Gov. Doug Ducey praised a budget that paid down the state’s debt, claiming “it’s the responsible thing to do.”

Andy Biggs and Paul Gosar refuse to honor Capitol cops. We should be ashamed

Arizona Republic (Opinion, Laurie Roberts)

Reps. Andy Biggs and Paul Gosar couldn’t bring themselves to honor the police who protected them on Jan. 6 when rioters broke into the nation’s Capitol. Shame on them. And us.

Matt Salmon is the latest candidate to jump in Trump’s swamp. That’s good for Democrats

Arizona Republic (Opinion, Elvia Diaz)

Matt Salmon, who helped depose then GOP House Speaker Newt Gingrich, is the latest Republican politician betting his fate on Trump. It will backfire.

Phoenix is raising the bar on its climate goals, but we need federal help

Arizona Republic (Op-ed, Kate Gallego and Stephen Lezak)

Cities like Phoenix have accomplished a lot for the climate without federal coordination. Imagine how much more we could do with the feds on board.

‘It’s a dry heat:’ 25 memes that sum up Tucson summers

Arizona Daily Star

June 15, 2021, was the second hottest day on record for Tucson at 115 degrees. This is what it felt like

·PRESS RELEASES·

DNC Chair: ‘The ACA is Here to Stay’

DNC Chair Jaime Harrison released the following statement in response to the U.S. Supreme Court decision to uphold the Affordable Care Act:

“The Affordable Care Act is here to stay. Despite the best efforts of Republicans for the better part of the last decade to roll back, weaken and eliminate this historic law, the Supreme Court once again cemented affordable health care coverage for tens of millions of Americans and the over 133 million Americans living with preexisting conditions. “While today is a significant victory for the American people, we know that the fight is not over. The ACA is only the start. Thanks to President Biden and the American Rescue Plan, we’ve already seen historic progress this year with more Americans now covered under the ACA than ever before. Democrats believe that access to affordable health care is a right, not a privilege, and we will not stop fighting to expand access and lower costs for even more American families.”

STATEMENT FROM SUPERVISOR STEVE GALLARDO ON CREATION OF JUNETEENTH FEDERAL HOLIDAY

Just when you think bipartisanship is doomed, lawmakers in Washington come together and pass a bill creating a new federal holiday for the first time since 1983. This collaboration is as important as the holiday now recognized.

Juneteenth commemorates June 19, 1865 when Union soldiers arrived in Galveston, Texas and delivered the news of freedom to enslaved Black people. That was 2 ½ years after the Emancipation Proclamation! Racial inequality continues to be a difficult issue for our country and elected leaders at all levels. I applaud the members of Congress who didn't shy away from this incremental step toward healing and President Biden for quickly making it law. While the Legislature is still in session, I hope Arizona law makers and the governor will see this example of bipartisanship and recognize this important date in American history. For questions, contact District 5 at 602-506-7092.

House Proclamation Calls for U.S. Senator Mark Kelly's Recusal from Confirmation Vote for ATF Director

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – A legislative proclamation sponsored by State Representative Quang Nguyen was read today on the floor of the Arizona House of Representatives calling on U.S. Senator Mark Kelly (D-Ariz.) to recuse himself from the upcoming vote on the confirmation of David Chipman, nominated by President Biden to serve as the Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF):

Whereas, the State of Arizona has a rich history of protecting and supporting the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which protects the individual right of the people to keep and bear arms; and
Whereas, Arizona has a long tradition of firearms ownership and is home to a robust community of world-class firearms businesses and training programs that continue to grow stronger each year; and
Whereas, President Joe Biden has nominated David Chipman to serve as Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, also known as the ATF; and
Whereas, David Chipman has had an extensive career of working with organizations whose mission is to erode the Second Amendment and criminalize law-abiding Americans; and
Whereas, David Chipman currently works as a Senior Policy Advisor at Giffords, a gun control pressure group, founded by U.S. Senator Mark Kelly and his wife, former Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, to aggressively advocate for radical action, including a ban on commonly owned semi-automatic rifles and the imposition of ruinous legal liability on firearm-related companies; and
Whereas, starting in 2012, David Chipman began working for Mayors Against Illegal Guns (later a component of Everytown For Gun Safety), an extremist anti-firearms organization bankrolled by billionaire Michael Bloomberg, whose aim is to put up every barrier possible to prevent law-abiding citizens from exercising their constitutional right to firearm ownership and use; and
Whereas, the founding of the United States did not begin with the federal government, but rather with the states themselves; and
Whereas, an agency of the federal government should never seek to expand the mission of an administrative state, much less seek to eliminate the Second Amendment of the Bill of Rights;
Therefore, I, Representative Quang Nguyen, invite members of the Arizona House of Representatives, to:
Oppose the confirmation of David Chipman as director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Chipman has established by his long career in anti-gun advocacy and lobbying that he is an ideologue for his radical cause and will not serve to uphold the Constitutional rights of Americans while in this office, but rather to erase rights to fit the radical gun control agenda of the groups he still works for and associates with to this day.
Demand U.S. Senator Mark Kelly recuse himself from a confirmation vote. Chipman's current employment at Giffords, an organization co-founded by Senator Kelly, raises serious ethical questions regarding this vote and presents a clear and credible conflict of interest that puts the constitutional rights of Americans in jeopardy.

Release: The Gloves Come Off in Messy AZ GOP Senate Primary

PHOENIX – Welp...that didn't take long.

It's been less than a week since the Senate GOP primary became a three-man race and already Brnovich and Lamon are attacking each other as the entire primary field races to prove who is more willing to sell out Arizonans to earn President Trump's support.

In a [new CNN report](#), Lamon and Brnovich previewed their attacks against each other, with Lamon's spokesperson arguing Brnovich "has never had President Trump's back," and Brnovich's team firing back that Lamon is "unvetted" (McGuire, meanwhile, most likely breathed a deep sigh of relief that he escaped getting called a flip-flopper).

The article also detailed how Trump’s highly coveted endorsement hasn’t been able to fully clear a primary field, further bad news for Republicans in this sure to be long-running Arizona nominating contest. As a reminder, Trump has taken center stage in this primary from the start. Lamon has run ads targeting Trump’s New Jersey golf course. In response to blistering criticism from Trump, “lackluster” Brnovich has decided to fully support the conspiracy-driven Maricopa ‘audit.’ McGuire has similarly flip-flopped from acknowledging Biden as president, to saying he’s “disappointed” the Electoral College didn’t overturn the election. **“Lamon and Brnovich’s attacks are just the start of what’s sure to become a damaging, expensive, and long-running primary centered around President Trump, where no candidate emerges unscathed,”** said ADP Spokesperson Sarah Guggenheimer. **“As these candidates race to prove who’s most willing to cater to Trump’s every whim, voters are left wondering just how many Arizona priorities will be sold off in exchange for a shiny Trump endorsement.”**

School may be out, but a lesson on the history of Arizona’s women educators is just getting started

PHOENIX – A collaboration between the State of Arizona Research Library and the Arizona State Organization of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International led to the creation of a digital collection that highlights the historical work of women educators across Arizona. The History of Arizona State Organization of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International collection includes chapter reports that contain details like service projects, scholarships and grants, chapter activities, and biographies of influential chapter members. “DKG members have been an integral part of education in Arizona, as teachers and administrators, as legislators and community members. We are pleased to have the history of our organization as part of the Arizona Memory Project,” said Arizona State Organization President Carmen Wendt. Researchers of education and women in Arizona will find documents covering the history of the Organization from 1936 through 2006. The collection is available on the Arizona Memory Project and can be viewed indefinitely on any digital device at <http://go.azsos.gov/asodkgsi>.

Arizona Groups Urge Senators Sinema and Kelly to Support DC Statehood

Local groups write that self-governance and full voting rights for DC residents would lift up issues important to Arizonans

Phoenix, AZ – Over two dozen Arizona nonprofit, racial justice, and voting rights groups are urging Senators Kyrsten Sinema and Mark Kelly to support DC statehood. The groups sent a letter today to the senators urging them to co-sponsor the Washington, DC Admission Act (S.51), which would grant the 700,000 Americans living in Washington, DC full voting rights and representation in Congress.

The letter states: *“As you know, voting rights and equity are two of the issues at the core of our organizations’ work. We have more than a decade of work in ensuring communities are protected and represented in our democracy. Statehood for Washington, DC is an issue that sits at the intersection of those issues.”*

The letter comes two days after it was announced that the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee — of which Senator Sinema is a member — would hold a hearing on S. 51 next week. Currently, 46 Senators have co-sponsored the legislation; Sens. Sinema and Kelly have yet to sign on.

“Washington, DC is 46 percent black and 11 percent Hispanic; denying these 700,000 Americans full voting rights and representation in Congress is fully rooted in systemic racism,” said **Sandy Ochoa from Mi Familia Vota in Tucson**. *“It is time for Senators Sinema and Kelly to walk in the footsteps of John Lewis, and be a champion of voting rights.”*

The DC statehood movement received increased attention this past year, when in June 2020, President Trump ordered heavily armed troops and law enforcement into the nation’s capital to violently disperse peaceful protests so he could pose for a photo-op. Then, on January 6th, President Trump initially denied Mayor Bowser’s request to deploy the National Guard during the assault on the Capitol, resulting in one of the darkest days of American democracy. And the very people who were most impacted by the riot –DC residents and police officers — had no voting representation in congress and so had no say in the outcome of the impeachment trial, nor on whether a January 6th Commission— which Senator Sinema promoted—would be allowed to investigate the insurrection.

Madalyn Williams, co-director and director of policy at Black Phoenix Votes said, *“DC statehood is one of the most pro-Black and most urgent proposals currently under consideration in Congress. The 315,000+ Black residents of DC*

and their multiracial neighbors do not deserve to go a moment longer without full representation. Additionally, by granting full representation, DC's elected officials could be held responsible for fighting for pro-Black legislation that would enhance the lives of their constituents in one of the Blackest regions of the country. In effect, DC statehood would also bring about representation for all of the Black folks around the country whose civic voices are under deliberate threat of dilution and erasure. “

Backing equal rights for Washington, DC residents has a history of bipartisan support, with Republican support from Dwight Eisenhower, Richard Nixon, and Arizona's own Senator Barry Goldwater. Additionally, S. 51 is constitutionally sound as it would carve out a federal district consisting of Congress and the White House, the national mall and monuments, and other government buildings. Congress would then approve statehood for the residential and commercial parts of DC, in the same manner all 37 states were admitted into the Union following the original 13 colonies; by a simple majority vote in Congress.

“Granting statehood to the residents of Washington, DC would uplift issues that are critical to Arizonans like child poverty, voting rights for all citizens, gun safety, and Equal Rights for Women. Having a U.S. Senate that is more representative of our diverse nation would ensure that these critical issues have a chance in Congress.” added **Pinny Sheoran of League of Women Voters of Arizona**.

The letter continues: *“It is unconscionable that 700,000 Americans who pay federal taxes have no voting representation in Congress. DC has more residents than Vermont or Wyoming and pays more in taxes than 22 states. DC residents have served and died in every war America has fought and 32,000 veterans live in DC. They should be treated equally...*

We appreciate your leadership on voting rights issues. As our senators, your values of supporting democracy and representation should extend from Arizona to the District... we ask that you extend the support of America's democracy to all, and racial justice to the 700,000 residents in Washington DC and support The Washington, DC Admission Act (S. 51).”

The full text of the letter can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3gvEfWI>

Healthy Arizona Worksites Program Recognizes 121 Employers Statewide

ADHS, Maricopa County Public Health promote wellness strategies for employers

PHOENIX — The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) and Maricopa County Department of Public Health have honored 121 employers across the state for excellence in worksite wellness strategies.

The seventh annual Healthy Arizona Worksites Program awards event, held virtually on Thursday, June 17, recognizes many of the hundreds of participating corporations, healthcare organizations, public agencies, and educational institutions. Participants use the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Worksite Health ScoreCard as part of an evidence-based worksite wellness program.

“The pandemic has changed the way many people work, and these awards call attention to the creative ways employers have continued promoting good health in virtual and hybrid worksites,” said Dr. Cara Christ, director of the Arizona Department of Health Services. *“Promoting health among your employees is good business, plain and simple.”*

The CDC Worksite Health ScoreCard's metrics include how an organization supports physical activity, weight management, nutrition, maternal health and lactation, and stress management, as well as how its programs reduce tobacco use, cancer, high blood pressure, heart attacks, strokes, and diseases that can be prevented by vaccines.

“We are proud of all the work these businesses have done to continue to serve their workforce's changing needs,” said Marcy Flanagan, executive director of Maricopa County Department of Public Health. *“All the awardees have demonstrated their commitment to supporting health during work hours over the past year, and many of them have been recognized for this commitment several years in a row.”*

Businesses must complete the CDC Health ScoreCard to qualify for these annual awards, and they often take advantage of the free Healthy Arizona Worksites Program's guidance for creating a healthy workplace culture and tools proven to promote employee health and wellness.

Employers interested in participating in the Healthy Arizona Worksites Program can register at HealthyAZWorksites.org.

“QUOTE OF THE DAY”

“Yeah, you’re a f*cking idiot.”

- *Livingston, on a hot mic as Democrats talked about climate change*