

YELLOW SHEET REPORT

NEWS NOTES AND GOSSIP

NO ROOM FOR INTERPRETATION

The state is not providing constitutionally adequate medical and mental health care to inmates of state prisons and has acted with “deliberate indifference” to the resulting substantial risk of serious harm, U.S. District Judge Roslyn Silver wrote in a 200-page order ([LINK](#)). The state is similarly ignoring the substantial risk of harm posed to prisoners in



“restrictive housing units,” where inmates are subjected to extreme social isolation, lack of recreation and insufficient nutrition. The ruling follows Silver’s decision to rescind a 2015 settlement in the prison healthcare case, *Jensen v Shinn*, after the state did not improve conditions despite being held in contempt and fined millions of dollars. Silver ordered a new trial, which was held over the course of 15 days in fall 2021. The initial class-action lawsuit was filed in 2012 on behalf of inmates who said their conditions violated their Eighth Amendment rights. Silver said the case boiled down to two questions: “Are Defendants violating the constitutional rights of Arizona’s prisoners through the existing medical and mental health care system? And are Defendants violating the constitutional rights of a subset of Arizona’s prisoners by almost round-the-clock confinement in their cells? The answer is yes to both questions.” Silver noted that the Eighth Amendment doesn’t require “the highest quality of health care, the community standard of health care, or the most pleasant accommodations possible.” However, “the health care and conditions of confinement must reflect basic common decency and a recognition of the dignity the government must accord all human beings.” The Dept of Corrections “failed to provide, and continue to refuse to provide, a constitutionally adequate medical care and mental health care system for all prisoners,” Silver wrote. Much of the 200-page ruling details specific cases where the current level of care failed an inmate, even resulting in some of their likely preventable deaths or in unnecessary pain or both. Silver said the staffing for medical and mental health care was “patently insufficient, and more often than not incompetent” without proper training, which she wrote was a toxic combination that the ADCRR has refused to address. Silver also took aim at the ADCRR’s experts, saying one’s opinion that only one prisoner “received possibly deficient mental health care is appalling and overwhelmingly contradicted by the evidence at trial.” The issues of critical understaffing, health care led by nurses, lack of interpretation services and a “disastrous” electronic health record are “pervasive at all 10 ADCRR complexes,” Silver wrote. She said that the ADCRR knew about these problems but refused to address them. “This has been evident since the inception of this action,” she wrote. She said the court plans to employ an expert to help craft an injunction. “In this case, there is no question remedial measures are necessary to correct constitutional deficiencies and the Court will meet its constitutional obligations,” Silver concluded.

IT'S LIKE 2006 IN REVERSE

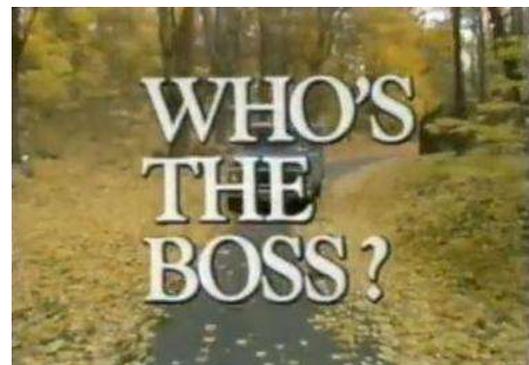


The Legislature didn't take any dramatic steps this session to address the rising cost of living in the Valley – something that's become an important issue on the campaign trail this year. But it did pass a bill aimed at addressing one quirk of the local housing market that has benefited developers and investors looking to acquire apartment properties. H2275 (condominium termination; unit owners; percentage) raised the vote

threshold needed to wind down the HOA governing a condominium complex to 95%, up from 80%. Weninger, the bill's sponsor, said it's needed to counteract a problematic trend: investor groups coming in from out of state, buying up a majority of the units in a condo complex, then forcing the rest of the owners out, often with deceptive tactics to push down the price in a forced sale. But he said it's not enough – the final version of the bill was watered down with an amendment that means it will only apply to condos created after the bill's effective date. Weninger said that amendment was necessary to get legislators on board with the language. Ultimately the bill passed with bipartisan support – no opposing votes in the Senate and only five opposing in the House. Weninger is leaving the legislature to run for Treasurer and he said he's hoping another legislator will try to work on the issue going forward, hopefully extending the higher threshold to existing condo HOAs. He said the forced sales that are possible under existing law are simply unfair. "I just, in my heart, just feel it's wrong," he said.

IT'S A TOSS-UP

Rios anticipates that the competition to be the next minority leader will be a toss-up between a more "far-left camp" candidate like Terán and a more "moderate camp" candidate like Espinoza. "At the end of the day, it's going to come down to perhaps those two, that would be my prediction," she said. Rios also noted that she's heard Alston wants to be in leadership, and that the exact positions aren't always what is important. "It really doesn't matter what title you have, if you have a team that works together, everybody works together. And it doesn't matter if you're called the whip, or you're called the leader, because you're doing the same work on behalf of the team."



A PODCAST STARRING OUR SUBSCRIBERS



Republican consultant and former Ducey chief of staff Daniel Scarpinato launched a new podcast today called “Scarp & Friends” that features his discussions with – who else? – the friends he’s made during his careers as a reporter and political operative. “I’ve wanted to do it for sometime – must be my journalism roots!” he texted our reporter. If the first episode is any indication, the podcast will feature a mix of substantive and sometimes irreverent – Elmo got vaxxed? – policy discussion, campaign forecasting and anecdotes from guests reflecting on

their time in Arizona politics. Scarpinato kicked off the first episode with former Governor Jan Brewer, who was more than willing to share personal stories from her career, including the time she had a heart attack at age 47 in a Chicago airport while trying to make it back in time for negotiations over health insurance for state employees. She also talked about what it was like to take over as governor in 2009 from Janet Napolitano as Arizona faced the Great Recession – and she didn’t hold back. “I was Secretary of State...so I was watching what was going on in the Legislature and what Governor Napolitano was doing and I know that they were spending money like drunken sailors ...the Republican legislature and the Democrat governor, they were having party time,” she said. The episode also featured a news of the day discussion with lawyer Matt Yurus and consultants Lorna Romero Ferguson and Sarah Elliot.

PLEASE JUST LET US GO ON VACATION

The year might not be over after all as there are rumblings of a special session on the aggregate expenditure limit, according to Fann. “It’s my understanding there was agreement between the governor and some of the Democratic Caucus members in an effort to finish out this bipartisan budget, that if necessary ... he would entertain a special session on the AEL.” The idea is to make another one-year fix to the spending limit now so that it doesn’t need to be quickly resolved at the beginning of next year’s session, and lawmakers can focus on a more permanent solution in 2023.

·WAKE UP CALL·

[AZ lawmakers subpoenaed regarding Jan. 6 riot](#)

Arizona Capitol Times

At least two Arizona lawmakers say they were subpoenaed by the FBI for communications regarding the January 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol.

[Faced with hostility, election officials are resigning](#)

Arizona Capitol Times

After a decade serving as Yavapai County recorder, Leslie Hoffman announced her resignation this week and said the hostility directed toward her and her office during the past two years played into her decision to leave.

[Legal status of abortions remains unresolved](#)

Capitol Media Services

The question of whether some or all abortions are currently legal in Arizona and for how long - remains unresolved as the issue goes to judges here.

[Supreme Court: Biden can end Trump asylum policy](#)

Capitol Media Services

The Biden administration is free to scrap the Trump-era “Remain in Mexico” policy for asylum seekers, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled Thursday.

[Youth mental health ‘complicated,’ Chandler Unified official says](#)

Chandler Arizonan

The woman leading the effort to address mental health concerns at Chandler Unified Schools says there are many factors impacting youth today.

[Budget includes \\$4M for upgrades on Arizona lakes](#)

Today's News-Herald

2nd year in a row funding restored bolstering boat patrol efforts among other things.

[Trump endorses GOP rival to Jan. 6 witness Rusty Bowers](#)

Associated Press

Donald Trump on Wednesday endorsed the Republican running against Arizona House Speaker Rusty Bowers, who last week gave powerful testimony to the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 insurrection.

[Republican candidates square off in raucous Arizona governor debate](#)

Associated Press

Development attorney Karrin Taylor Robson called for leaving behind the 2020 election and focusing on the future while former news anchor Kari Lake doubled down on the lie that former President Donald Trump lost because of fraud as the Republican candidates for governor squared off in a raucous debate Wednesday.

[Legislature approves most expansive private school voucher system in the nation](#)

Payson Roundup

Almost every student in Arizona can now qualify for taxpayer subsidies to attend private schools — or stay home and get home-schooled.

[Facing Homelessness After \\$462 Monthly Hike: One Story From Phoenix's Renter Crisis](#)

Phoenix New Times

Once, Nancy Lake worked as a social worker, a counselor for Phoenix families in crisis. She saw how problems would pile up, how quickly people could find themselves on the street.

[Dems, doctors react to Brnovich saying Arizona will enforce a Civil War-era abortion ban](#)

Arizona Mirror

The ban dates back to the 1860s, before Arizona was a state and women could vote.

[The Rosemont Mine rollercoaster: Trump-era rules were overturned, so Hudbay radically overhauled its mining plan](#)

Arizona Mirror

The 15-year struggle over proposed mining activities in the Santa Rita Mountains continued to play out in June, as the Biden administration reversed a Trump-era loosening of environmental rules that would have allowed Toronto-based Hudbay Minerals Inc to dump mine waste into washes on the proposed Rosemont Mine site.

[This was the scariest moment in Arizona's GOP governor's debate. Be warned, America](#)

Arizona Republic (Opinion, Laurie Roberts)

In an Arizona Republican gubernatorial debate full of cringe-worthy moments, this was by far the cringiest, creepiest, scariest moment of all. Be warned, America.

·PRESS RELEASES·

Sinema-Backed Bipartisan Bill Expands Children's Access to Care ***Bipartisan Accelerating Kids' Access to Care Act eliminates burdensome barriers for providers caring for children***

WASHINGTON – Arizona senior Senator Kyrsten Sinema cosponsored the *Accelerating Kids' Access to Care Act* – bipartisan legislation that expands children's access to care by eliminating burdensome administrative barriers for providers caring for children on the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) with complex medical needs who have to travel out-of-state for treatment or clinical trials.

"Arizona's children should not face barriers or delays for timely, life-saving care. Our bipartisan legislation helps Arizona families avoid health care delays by cutting red tape and allows health providers to focus on their patients, not paperwork," said Sinema.

CHIP provides health insurance coverage for children on Medicaid. When specialty pediatric care is only available out of state, children with complex care needs and their providers must frequently tackle complicated paperwork to comply with each state's Medicaid provider screening and enrollment requirements – delaying the ability to get approved for timely surgery or treatment. Sinema's bipartisan bill creates an alternative screening and enrollment pathway only available to these providers who are stepping in to care for children with time-sensitive treatment needs.

Sinema has heard from Arizona families with children living with complex medical conditions who regularly require specialized care. Unfortunately, these specialty providers or facilities are not available in every state. As a result, many children do not have access to specialized care in their home state. This bipartisan legislation helps Arizona families avoid delays in care and assist providers in being able to quickly get enrolled in their out-of-patient's Medicaid or CHIP program.

###

Governor Ducey Signs Legislation To Honor Veterans, Ease Burdens

PHOENIX — Governor Doug Ducey today took action to continue honoring veterans, signing two bills to lower barriers for the women and men who have served our nation.

The two bipartisan bills decrease the financial burden of licensing fees for veterans, building upon multiple veteran-focused bills signed into law this session. This includes a [\\$10 million investment to waive higher education tuition for their spouses](#), a [commitment](#) made during his January State of the State address.

"Our veterans give us so much and Arizona is dedicated to finding more ways to honor them," said Governor Ducey. "This session, we delivered. We followed up on our State of the State promise to launch a program to waive in-state higher education tuition for the dedicated husbands and wives of veterans who have served and sacrificed as well. Arizona will continue to lower barriers and give back to this selfless and courageous community."

H.B. 2741, sponsored by Rep. Joanne Osborne, waives state business licensing fees for military spouses and honorably discharged veterans, helping those who have served their country start their own business.

The move adds to the current rule that agencies must waive any initial business licensing fee for an applicant whose income does not exceed 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.

"I was honored to sponsor H.B. 2741, which will have huge impacts for military families and veterans who have recently been discharged from the military," said Rep. Osborne. "In Arizona, career opportunities are widely available, and we should ensure military spouses are able to continue their careers in Arizona by waiving their licensing fees. I appreciate my fellow legislators who passed this legislation and Governor Ducey for signing it into law."

"Through the Arizona Roadmap to Veteran Employment, we've seen how consistent employment can stabilize the military family," Retired Air Force Col. Wanda Wright, Arizona Department of Veterans' Services Director said. "This fee waiver presents an important next step in knocking down barriers and creating a path to employment for service members, their spouses and veterans who have or are transitioning from military to civilian life."

H.B. 2701, sponsored by Rep. Leo Biasiucci, reduces fees for hunting and fishing licenses issued by the Arizona Game and Fish Department for veterans. Under the new law, veterans with a service connected disability will receive a 25 percent reduction on their hunting and fishing licenses and Purple Heart recipients will have a 50 percent reduction.

"It's important that we continue to support those who have done so much to protect our nation: military veterans," said Rep. Biasiucci. "H.B. 2701 does that by reducing the cost of hunting and fishing licenses for veterans in Arizona. I'm pleased to see this legislation be signed into law by the Governor, and I thank everyone who showed their support."

"The Arizona Game and Fish Department and Commission have a long history of honoring our veterans, this is another way we continue to thank them for their service," said Ty Gray, Director of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. "Thanks to Governor Ducey and the Arizona Legislature for the opportunity to offer this to the brave men and women who have served our country and value the role our veterans play in wildlife conservation."

Veteran-focused bills the governor signed this session include:

S.B. 1115 in-state student status; veterans (Borrelli)

S.B. 1212 veterans' service department; commission; continuation (Leach)

S.B. 1406 excused military absences; higher education (Gowan)

H.B. 2062 military; purple heart; VLT exemptions (Blackman)

H.B. 2223 emergency; military affairs; national guard (Blackman)

H.B. 2320 veterans' organization; leased property; classification (Kavanagh)

BACKGROUND

Throughout his administration, Governor Ducey has worked to expand opportunities in Arizona for those who answered the call to serve our nation.

The [Arizona Coalition for Military Families](#) helps veterans build meaningful careers outside of service.

The [Arizona Roadmap to Veteran Employment](#)—developed in partnership by the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services, the Arizona Coalition for Military Families, and public- and private-sector partners—is a statewide plan that engages organizations to connect service members, veterans and their families to employment opportunities and other essential resources.

Under the Be Connected: [Career Navigation](#) section of the roadmap, professional career navigators assist military members, veterans, spouses and family members through resume coaching, interview preparation and career counseling. The Coalition also helps train employers in military and veteran culture, and in understanding the transition of a veteran to a civilian workplace. The Career Navigation team makes matches between career seekers and employers.

The Arizona Department of Veterans' Services—in partnership with [ARIZONA@WORK](#) and the Arizona Housing Coalition—offers the [Veteran Toolkit](#), which provides qualifying veterans with funds for expenses associated with beginning employment, including work clothes, tools, protective equipment, transportation and essential electronic devices.

###

Far From Perfect, But Historic Bi-Partisan Budget Contains Significant Democratic Wins for Arizona

PHOENIX – The historic bi-partisan budget signed this week contains significant wins for Arizona schools and communities negotiated by Democrats, House Democratic Leader Reginald Bolding announced today. Bolding cited new investments in public education, higher education, Tribal and statewide infrastructure, water, and services for Arizona's most vulnerable communities.

"This budget was far from perfect, but it contains more for the communities we serve than perhaps anyone expected. It will make a huge difference for our schools, rural and Tribal communities and for those Arizonans most in need because Democrats were finally at the table," Bolding said. "These historic wins reflect so many Democratic priorities because of passionate and persistent advocacy from multiple individual members of our caucus on their specific issue areas, and because our team stuck together to maximize our leverage when it became clear that it would require Democratic votes to pass a budget." Bolding added, "Many members of our caucus have fought hard for years to secure these priorities, and it was not possible without any of them. But I want to raise up a few members who were essential in making this deal come together. Representative Jennifer Pawlik was a tenacious champion for our schools, Representative Diego Espinoza fought for Democratic priorities on infrastructure, and Representative Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren helped secure unprecedented investments for the Navajo Nation and rural communities."

Highlights of Democratic priorities reflected in the budget include:

K-12 Education

- Negotiated an additional \$60m in base-level K-12 funding to bring the total permanent increase to \$526 million.
- Accelerated the ongoing opportunity weight to the FY23 instead of FY 24.
- Added option to hire counselors to the \$50 million increase for school resource officers.
- Removed additional funding to expand tax credit for STO private school scholarships.
- \$60M for additional soft capital assistance (books, computers, materials) for District (\$47M) and Charter schools (\$12M). Democrats also negotiated an equalized \$55 per-pupil increase rather than one that advantaged charter school students.
- \$4M for Statewide Assessment Funding (to help support more accurate school grades related to Results Based Funding).
- \$800k for Statewide Gifted Testing Procurement.
- \$5M non lapsing for Office of Indian Education.
- \$1M for the Invest in Postsecondary Success "earn to learn" Program – for a nonprofit to administer a college match savings program and provide program participants with financial capability training and workforce development.
- Removed ESA private-school voucher expansion from the budget. Vouchers were voted as a separate bill with no Democratic support.

Higher Education

- Negotiated an \$80M to close budget gap-- NAU \$26M and ASU \$54M to match UofA for capital investments.
- \$4M for Navajo Technical University Environmental testing lab.
- \$8M for Dine College Student Center construction.
- \$16M for Adult Ed programs through 501(c)3s and community colleges.

Health and Human Services

- \$2.7M AHCCCS - Postpartum Care.
- \$630K Allow Children's Health Insurance Program members to remain eligible for 12 months.
- \$700K Diabetes Management.
- \$10M Department of Child Services - Healthy Families expansion.
- \$19.8M DCS - Increase Monthly Kinship Stipend from \$75 to \$300.
- \$1.2M Department of Economic Security – Developmentally Disabled group home monitoring pilot program (3 Years).
- \$1M DES - Area Agencies on Aging provider rate increase.
- \$11.2 M to add 95 FTE investigators to Adult Protective Services, recommended by the Democratic co-led ADHOC Committee on Abuse and Neglect of Vulnerable Adults.

Water *In the budget and in separately negotiated water deal HB2873

- Negotiated *\$200M from federal ARPA for water conservation projects, including \$20M dedicated to Tribes.
- \$3M over FY23-24 for Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to establish rules for direct potable reuse.
- \$30M for Arizona Department of Agriculture water efficiencies programs.

Infrastructure

- \$25M Loop 101 slip ramp to 91st Avenue in Tolleson.
- \$33M for Cesar Chavez Blvd widening improvements in San Luis.
- \$3M for Dilkon Center improvements on the Navajo Nation.
- \$2M for Kayenta Judicial Complex.
- \$1M for Navajo Nation Teesto Multipurpose Community Center site program.
- \$1M for Little Colorado River Visitor Center in Navajo County.
- \$500k for Navajo Nation Lukachukai Veterans Multipurpose Complex.
- \$1M for Ganado School Loop Road improvements.
- \$10M for Navajo County N9402 Road.
- \$6M for Navajo County N35 Road.
- \$3M Ruby Road Bridge Improvements.
- Removed the proposed border fence from the budget. Funded through a TPT transfer, it was voted as a separate bill with no Democratic support.

Judiciary

- Continued and expanded the scope of Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Study Committee with \$2M for investigations through the Attorney General's Office.
- \$2M to Corrections for Community Treatment Program for Imprisoned Women and Their Children.
- \$10M to DPS to create the Major Incident Division which will conduct independent criminal investigations of law enforcement incidents of deadly force.

Arts

- \$5M Arts Commission Trust Fund deposit.

###

Tempe Officers Association endorses Karrin Taylor Robson for Governor

July 1, 2022

Today, the Karrin for Arizona campaign is pleased to announce the Tempe Officers Association (TOA) has endorsed Karrin Taylor Robson for Governor. TOA represents Tempe sworn Officers and Sergeants' interests to improve working conditions and overall public safety in the City of Tempe.

"Karrin Taylor Robson has the experience and qualities to be Arizona's next Governor," TOA President Rob Ferraro said. "In Karrin, our members will have a Governor who will provide them with the resources and support needed to keep Tempe neighborhoods safe.

###

Arizona Education Association Endorses Reginald Bolding for Secretary of State

Bolding: "As Secretary of State, I will continue to fight for our educators and students..."

PHOENIX, AZ – The Arizona Education Association (AEA) has endorsed Reginald Bolding for Secretary of State. Currently the Arizona House Democratic Leader, Bolding was an AEA member when he was a Special Education teacher at Percy L. Julian Elementary School in Phoenix. AEA will be encouraging their base of over 20,000 members to vote for their endorsed champions of public education. Bolding will be on the ballot for the Arizona Democratic Primary on August 2, 2022.

“As a former teacher, this endorsement means the world. I know that our educators are some of the most hardworking professionals in the state. Earning their trust, respect, and endorsement means a lot to me and a lot to our campaign, and their support is the fuel that will allow us to win this race,” said Bolding.

He highlighted his pro-public education track record, “As the House Democratic Leader, I am proud to have stood shoulder to shoulder with educators, who have been on the front lines in our communities, to fight for increased funding in the classroom and ensure that their work is supported. As Secretary of State, I will continue to fight for our educators and students to have the funding and resources they need to succeed.”

Bolding worked to secure nearly \$1 billion in funding for public education in the Arizona State Budget, signed by Governor Ducey earlier this week.

###

Release: Senator Sally Ann Gonzales Endorses Adrian Fontes For Secretary of State

PHOENIX - Today Arizona State Senator Sally Ann Gonzalez endorsed Adrian Fontes for Arizona Secretary of State.

Senator Sally Ann Gonzales provided the following statement:

“I am asking voters in District 20 and Arizonans across our great state to vote for Adrian Fontes for Secretary of State. Adrian would be the most qualified Secretary of State in our history and he would make history as the first Latino to serve in that position. We need Adrian Fontes to serve in this crucial office and be the bulwark against extremists' attacks on the right to vote.”

Adrian Fontes stated:

“Senator Sally Ann Gonzalez served admirably as a State Representative and she continues to serve selflessly as an Arizona State Senator. She is a champion for our students and a fighter for equality for all Arizonans. I am so grateful for her support and her belief in my campaign.”

###

Stanton, Penzone to Announce \$600k Federal Investment in Forensic DNA Testing Technology

PHOENIX— On Wednesday, July 6 at 12 p.m., Rep. Greg Stanton will join Maricopa County Sheriff Paul Penzone for a press conference to announce \$600,000 in federal funds Stanton secured for the Sheriff's office to purchase RapidHIT DNA enhancement technology—a proven tool that allows law enforcement to process DNA samples quickly and get criminals off the street faster.

RapidHIT DNA instruments can generate lab-quality forensic DNA profiles in as little as 90 minutes, as opposed to the weeks or months it can take for results to come back from the state crime lab due to backlogs and higher priority casework. The funds will be used to purchase two of these tools.

What: Press conference to announce federal funding for RapidHIT DNA enhancement technology

Who: Rep. Greg Stanton

Sheriff Paul Penzone

Representatives from MCSO's Scientific Analysis Division

Where: Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

550 West Jackson, Phoenix, AZ

When: Wednesday, July 6 at 12 p.m.

Please RSVP to Allison.Childress@mail.house.gov.

Healthcare Rising Arizona To Hand in Record Number of Signatures for Measure Fighting Predatory Debt Collection Thursday Morning July 7

(Phoenix) —On Thursday morning July 7th, Healthcare Rising Arizona will file a record number of signatures supporting its plan to provide Arizona relief from predatory debt collection to the Arizona Secretary of State's office. Healthcare Rising Arizona is a membership organization dedicated to improving our standard of health and living with over 1,200 contributing members in Arizona.

The law requires just under 238,000 valid signatures. This ballot measure, the Predatory Debt Collection Protection Act, would protect Arizonans by shielding more of our assets and belongings from debt collectors, and limiting the interest rate on medical debt to three percent per year.

The signatures will be filed at 10:00 AM, with a press conference beforehand at 9:00 AM. The Reverend Dr. William Lyons will join Healthcare Rising Arizona members to rally supporters and answer questions from members of the press.

What: Healthcare Rising Arizona files signatures with Secretary of State

Who: Healthcare Rising Arizona

The Rev. Dr. William Lyons

State Representative Andres Cano

Bill Ford, Healthcare Rising Member

Jessica Baez-Staggers, Healthcare Rising Member

Martha French, Healthcare Rising Member

When: Thursday, July 7th, 9 AM Arizona Time

Where: State Capitol Rose Garden at West Adams Street between 17th and 18th Avenues

Healthcare Rising Arizona is a membership organization of everyday Arizonans – patients and caregivers; family, friends, and neighbors – dedicated to improving our standard of health and living.

###

Story: Border Crisis Turned Arizona Into "Highway For Drug Smugglers"

PHOENIX — Border Patrol agents, the Yuma County sheriff, the Yuma mayor and San Luis police spoke out about the rampant cartel activity in southern Arizona.

The Biden Border Crisis is raging, but Arizona Democrats like Mark Kelly, Katie Hobbs, Tom O'Halleran, Greg Stanton, Kirsten Engel and Daniel Hernandez can't be bothered to stop the fentanyl pouring into Arizona communities. These Democrats are busy [denying the border crisis is real](#), [trying to defund border security](#) and [opposing filling in border wall gaps](#).

[Read more here](#).

###

Fourth Of July Fireworks A Dud Under Biden

PHOENIX — Multiple Valley cities and towns have [cancelled their Fourth of July fireworks](#) due to supply chain problems.

The disappointing news for thousands of Arizona families comes amid the backdrop of [Joe Biden's never-ending supply chain crisis](#). Biden and Arizona Democrats [promised](#) to fix the supply chain crisis, but they have completely [failed](#).

While many cities and towns [scrambled to arrange substitutes](#) for their fireworks shows, thousands of Arizonans who typically attend these patriotic celebrations will miss out.

Biden and Democrats' broken supply chain affects more than just fireworks. The crisis continues driving up the price of everything, from groceries to gas to household goods. This Fourth of July will be more expensive than ever, with prices for an Independence Day cookout [up 17 percent](#) over last year.

“Between cancelled fireworks shows, record-high gas prices and skyrocketing food costs, Joe Biden and Arizona Democrats’ multitude of crises are throwing a wet blanket on Arizonans’ Fourth of July celebrations.” – RNC Spokesperson Ben Petersen

###

ICYMI: Arizona Democrats Blast Republican Attorney General’s Attempt to Reinstate “Extreme, Draconian” Territorial-Era Abortion Ban

AG Candidate Kris Mayes and State Senator Rebecca Rios Joined Local Doctors for a Press Conference Outside Brnovich’s Office

PHOENIX — Less than 24 hours after extremist Republican Attorney General Mark Brnovich announced his decision to reinstate a [pre-statehood ban on abortion](#), Arizona Democrats and doctors held a press conference outside of his office condemning his action.

Attorney General candidate Kris Mayes, State Senator Rebecca Rios, and University of Arizona family medicine faculty physicians Dr. Viktoria Krajnc and Dr. Sarah Thomas highlighted the devastating effects that this total ban will have on Arizonans and their families. The [121-year-old law](#) criminalizes abortion at all stages of pregnancy — with no exceptions for rape or incest — and mandates jail time for anyone who facilitates an abortion.

See Below for a Roundup of Coverage on Yesterday’s Press Conference:

AZ Mirror: [Dems, doctors react to Brnovich saying Arizona will enforce a Civil War-era abortion ban](#)

At a press conference in front of the AG’s Office, Arizona State Senate Democratic leader Rebecca Rios called anti-abortion Republicans an “existential threat to Arizona,” adding that all the Republican gubernatorial candidates at Wednesday’s debate agreed with the law — and some even suggested withholding money from cities that disregard the law.

The Arizona Republic: [Democrats blast Brnovich's backing of 1800s law banning abortions in Arizona](#)

Sen. Rebecca Rios, D-Phoenix, and Kris Mayes called Brnovich's effort to enforce the law from the 1800s "draconian." “The extreme right does not care about women at all. And they certainly do not care about the privacy of Arizonans. I want to be very clear — not on my watch,” Mayes said.

AP: [High court: Arizona can enforce genetic issue abortion ban](#)

Democrats and abortion rights advocates slammed Brnovich’s decision. “Mark Brnovich just took us back to 1901,” Democratic attorney general candidate Kris Mayes said Thursday. “And I think it should outrage everyone. It’s way outside of where most Arizonans stand on this issue. “And it’s also unconstitutional,” she added. “I believe all of these laws violate Arizona’s privacy clause.”

Arizona's Family News: [Doctors raise concerns about confusion surrounding Arizona abortion laws](#)

On Thursday, state Democrats held a news conference with local physicians to voice their disdain for the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision — overturning *Roe v. Wade*. They also expressed outrage over Brnovich’s statement that the total abortion ban is the governing law in the state, based on the territorial law that passed a century and a half ago.

12 News: ['Extreme, draconian law': Confusion over Arizona's abortion laws continue as Dems and doctors respond](#)

When it comes to the 1901 law, Arizona Democrats and doctors held a press conference calling out Arizona's top prosecutor outside his office Thursday. "This extreme, draconian law criminalizes abortion at all stages of pregnancy with no exception for rape or incest," said Sen. Rebecca Rios (D). "And mandates jail time for anyone who facilitates an abortion."

Fox 10: [Abortion now banned in most cases in Arizona, Attorney General says: Here's what to know about ARS 13-3603](#)

Members of the Democratic Party are pushing back. "The government does not belong in this most private of decisions," said Kris Mayes, who is the Democratic Party candidate for Arizona Attorney General. She is the only person running for the nomination, according to the Arizona Secretary of State's office. "When it

actually comes down to the work of protecting choice, only Democrats continue to fight for that freedom," said State Sen. Rebecca Rios.

KTAR: [Arizona Democrats React to Abortion Ban](#)

Arizona Democrats are coming out against Attorney General Mark Brnovich after he claimed abortion is illegal in arizona. Arizona state Senate Democratic leader, Rebecca Rios says the majority of Arizonans support access to safe and legal abortions and opposed the overturning of Roe v Wade which is supported by recent polls. "Anti-choice Republicans pose an existential threat. time and again they prioritize their radical extremist agenda over actually serving Arizonans." Rios urges Arizonans to vote for Democrats to ensure access to abortions.

###

Arizona Democratic Party Statement on SCOTUS' Deadly Decision to Restrict EPA's Ability to Tackle Climate Change

PHOENIX - Yesterday, the Supreme Court finished its stream of attacks against Americans with a decision to limit the federal government's ability to regulate policies that will tackle climate change. In a year when some of the [most urgent](#) reports have been published calling for immediate action to limit global warming, the Supreme Court's position puts lives at risk all over the world. This decision, together with overturning *Roe v. Wade* and gutting Miranda rights is a direct attack against our country's most vulnerable populations.

Out-of-touch, dangerous Republicans have been waiting for the day when they can use the Supreme Court as a weapon for their most harmful policies, and they finally got their wish. Arizonans deserve to be represented by people who don't take command from the Big Oil industry and will take the climate crisis seriously. Voters have a clear choice in November between leaders who can build a better future for everyone, or extremists who are focused on bringing this country backwards.

"Arizona is currently experiencing a climate change fight on all fronts, from water insecurity to rising temperatures," said Arizona Democratic Party Communications Director Morgan Dick. "If the Supreme Court is going to abandon humanity in this fight, then we must take matters into our own hands and elect leaders who will prioritize the sustainability of our state before it's no longer a place we are able to call home."

“QUOTE
OF THE DAY”

“So I was watching what was going on in the Legislature and what Governor Napolitano was doing, and I know that they were spending money like drunken sailors.”

- *Former Governor Jan Brewer on the “Scarp & Friends” podcast*