

Statement By House Republicans Supporting McCain-Kolbe-Flake Guest Worker Bill

(Phoenix, AZ) – “As members of the Majority Caucus of the Arizona House of Representatives, we created a budget that funds essential government services without increasing taxes. The most rapidly expanding expenditures to Arizona taxpayers continue to be K-12 education and health care, which are severely overloaded due to unfunded Federal mandates and lack of Border security.

“The proposed immigration ballot initiative, the Arizona Taxpayer and Citizen Protection Act, also know as “Protect Arizona Now”, will do nothing to address these critical funding issues. For decades, Arizona and other state governments have tried, unsuccessfully, to address the major impact that illegal immigration has on public education and emergency health care. However, Federal judges have consistently rejected these efforts on constitutional grounds. While we agree that illegal immigration is reaching a crisis stage in Arizona, we do not believe this initiative will resolve or improve this situation. Additionally, we support a voter audit to address the perceived illegal voter issue.

“The solution and responsibility lies directly with the Federal government, who is constitutionally charged with the protection of our national borders. Therefore, we support the proposal set forth by U. S. Senator John McCain, U. S. Representative Jim Kolbe, and U. S. Representative Jeff Flake, in their guest worker legislation. This recently introduced legislation is a thoughtful approach to organizing the chaos at our borders and deserves the prompt attention of Congress. The U. S. Congress should move swiftly and resolutely to pass this legislation to reimburse costs placed on Arizona taxpayers.”

S/Bill Arnold

Representative Bill Arnold

S/Clancy Jayne

Representative Clancy Jayne

S/Jennifer Burns

Representative Jennifer Burns

S/Bill Konopnicki

Representative Bill Konopnicki

S/Jim Carruthers

Representative Jim Carruthers

S/Lucy Mason

Representative Lucy Mason

Representative Linda Gray

Representative Marian McClure

S/Deb Gullett

Representative Deb Gullett

S/John Nelson

Representative John Nelson

S/Phil Hanson

Representative Phil Hanson

S/Tom O'Halleran

Representative Tom O'Halleran

S/J Peter Hershberger

Representative Pete Hershberger

S/Michele Reagan

Representative Michele Reagan

S/Carole Hubbs

Representative Carole Hubbs

S/Mark Thompson

Representative Mark Thompson

S/Steve Huffman

Representative Steve Huffman

S/Bill Wagner

Representative Bill Wagner

S/John Huppenthal

Representative John Huppenthal

Representative Steve Yarbrough