

Michael Carbone
ARIZONA STATE HOUSE

LEGISLATIVE update



I hope this email finds you well! I'm writing to share an update on what I've been working on in the Arizona State House of Representatives lately. It has been a busy and productive time as we continue our efforts to address some of the most pressing issues facing our state. From protecting personal freedoms to ensuring government transparency, I've been hard at work as your representative to make sure your voices are heard and your priorities are advanced.

Empowering Arizona Businesses

One of my key efforts this session has been sponsoring [HB 2450](#), a bill designed to simplify processes and reduce unnecessary burdens on small businesses.

“This bill ensures that Arizona’s unemployment system is responsive to economic realities while keeping the focus on getting people back to work,” said Majority Leader Carbone.

“Arizona is a state of opportunity, and we should always encourage workforce participation, not prolonged reliance on government benefits. This is a responsible approach that strengthens our economy, protects taxpayers, and prioritizes those who truly need assistance.”

“House Republicans are leading with strength and purpose, making sure government works for the people – not the other way around,” Leader Carbone added. “HB2450 is about keeping Arizona’s workforce engaged and ensuring our unemployment system serves as a safety net, not a substitute for employment.”

This legislation reflects a balanced approach to supporting individuals in need while encouraging economic growth and personal responsibility. By fostering a system that prioritizes workforce participation, HB2450 aims to create lasting solutions that empower Arizonans and strengthen the state’s economy.



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives
Majority Leader Michael Carbone (R-25)
1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007

Wednesday, February 5, 2025
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

House Commerce Committee Advances Majority Leader Carbone’s Unemployment Insurance Reform Bill to Align Benefits with Economic Conditions

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – The Arizona House Commerce Committee late Tuesday passed [HB2450](#), legislation introduced by House Majority Leader Michael Carbone to reform Arizona’s unemployment insurance system by adjusting the duration of benefits based on the state’s unemployment rate.

“This bill ensures that Arizona’s unemployment system is responsive to economic realities while keeping the focus on getting people back to work,” said Majority Leader Carbone. “Arizona is a state of opportunity, and we should always encourage workforce participation, not prolonged reliance on government benefits. This is a responsible approach that strengthens our economy, protects taxpayers, and prioritizes those who truly need assistance.”

Under current law, individuals receiving unemployment benefits can collect them for 24 to 26 weeks, regardless of the state’s economic conditions. HB2450 introduces a tiered approach, adjusting benefit duration based on the prior quarter’s unemployment rate. When unemployment is 5 percent or lower, benefits will be available for 12 weeks, with incremental increases as the unemployment rate rises.

Arizona’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for November 2024 was 3.7 percent, reflecting a strong job market and growing economy. Leader Carbone’s bill aligns unemployment benefits with these economic conditions, reinforcing House Republicans’ [Majority Plan](#) to preserve opportunity and promote economic growth.

“House Republicans are leading with strength and purpose, making sure government works for the people – not the other way around,” Leader Carbone added. “HB2450 is about keeping Arizona’s workforce engaged and ensuring our unemployment system serves as a safety net, not a substitute for employment.”

HB2450 now moves to the full Arizona House of Representatives for further consideration.

Michael Carbone is a Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives serving Legislative District 25 which includes portions of Yuma, Maricopa, and La Paz Counties. He also serves as House Majority Leader. Follow him on X at @MichaelCarbone.

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Honoring Veterans

The passing of [HB2672](#) underscores Arizona's commitment to honoring those who have selflessly served our nation. **By providing a full property tax exemption for 100% service-connected disabled veterans and their surviving spouses, this initiative reflects a profound recognition of their sacrifices.**

My leadership in championing this bill showcases my dedication to Arizona's veterans, ensuring they no longer bear the financial strain of property taxes on their homes. This exemption not only offers meaningful relief but also affirms the state's role in safeguarding the well-being of those who have given so much for the country.

Under the new provisions of [HB2672](#), Arizona eliminates existing barriers to property tax exemptions for disabled veterans, including income thresholds and assessment value caps. By removing these restrictions, the bill ensures that veterans with severe service-connected injuries can focus on their recovery and quality of life without worry.

Extending this benefit to surviving spouses further strengthens the bill's impact, helping families of veterans remain in their homes and communities. Arizona continues to lead with innovative policies that reinforce its core principles of economic security, low taxation, and unwavering support for those who have served in uniform.

With bipartisan backing, HB2672's passage is a milestone in advancing the state's mission to uplift its veteran community and their families.

Protecting the Vulnerable

Last, but not least, Arizona House Speaker Steve Montenegro, Majority Whip Julie Willoughby, and Speaker Pro Tempore Neal Carter and I, Majority Leader, have teamed up to call out our Governor for her runaway spending and overburdening of our State Budget.

House Republicans are sounding the alarm over a critical funding crisis in Arizona's Developmental Disabilities (DDD) program, laying the blame squarely on Governor Katie Hobbs' administration. **A \$122 million shortfall has placed one of the state's most vital safety nets for vulnerable citizens at risk, raising serious concerns about fiscal mismanagement and accountability.**

We have made it clear that while we are committed to ensuring the program continues to serve families in need, we cannot support a taxpayer-funded bailout without meaningful reforms to prevent future crises. The situation is especially dire



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives
Speaker Steve Montenegro (R-29)
Majority Leader Michael Carbone (R-25)
Majority Whip Julie Willoughby (R-13)
Speaker Pro Tempore Neal Carter (R-15)
1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007

Thursday, March 6, 2025
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

House Republicans Condemn Governor Hobbs' Mismanagement of Developmental Disabilities Program, Reaffirm Commitment to Fix Crisis

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Arizona House Speaker Steve Montenegro, Majority Leader Michael Carbone, Majority Whip Julie Willoughby, and Speaker Pro Tempore Neal Carter today released a joint statement condemning Governor Katie Hobbs' failure to take responsibility for the \$122 million shortfall in the Developmental Disabilities (DDD) program:

"Governor Hobbs' gross mismanagement puts Arizona's most vulnerable citizens at risk. Her administration's reckless spending decisions—made without consulting the Legislature—have bankrupted the DDD program, creating an avoidable crisis. Now, she's demanding a taxpayer bailout without accountability or reforms.

"Let's be clear: Arizona families rely on the DDD program, and it will not shut down. House Republicans are committed to fixing this crisis and ensuring long-term stability. However, we will not rubber-stamp the Governor's failed approach, which has already driven this program toward financial ruin.

"The numbers speak for themselves: This \$4 billion program is set to double in cost from FY23 to FY26. That trajectory is unsustainable, and yet instead of working with lawmakers on responsible solutions, Governor Hobbs fired her own budget director, demoted the DES director, and removed her health policy advisor, all while continuing to deflect blame.

"Political games must end. Governor Hobbs must instruct her agency staff to work constructively with us. Reforms are necessary to prevent this disaster from repeating itself. Arizona taxpayers and families deserve better than empty rhetoric and mismanagement."

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as the DDD program's costs are set to double by Fiscal Year 2026, a trajectory that leaders have described as unsustainable.

Together, we are urging Governor Hobbs to engage in constructive dialogue and implement necessary reforms. Arizona's taxpayers and families deserve better. As a Republican majority in the House of Representatives dealing with a Democrat Governor, **we are underscoring the need for careful, bipartisan collaboration** to restore stability to this essential program.

By addressing these critical concerns through carefully considered reforms, we have an opportunity to ensure the long-term sustainability of the DDD program while continuing to support the individuals and families who rely on it most.

This Press Release represents a necessary step toward fiscal responsibility and program efficiency, and we firmly believe that bipartisan collaboration will pave the way for a stronger, more reliable system for all Arizonans.

As you can see, we have been working hard on listening to Arizonans' priorities while pushing for government transparency and fiscal responsibility.



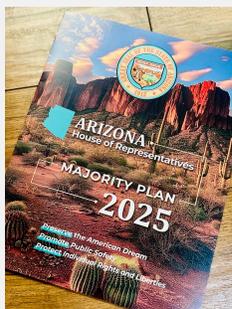
There are over 120 bills that have passed the AZ State House! I will continue to keep you updated on our progress as bills pass the AZ State House and move onto the AZ State Senate in the coming weeks.

Your input and engagement are vital to this process. That's why it's imperative to continue advancing the Majority plan while focusing on what matters most to you.

[Together, we can build a stronger Arizona by preserving the values that make our state great and tackling the challenges that lie ahead with determination and collaboration.](#)

Thank you for your trust and support as we work towards a prosperous Arizona for future generations.

Representative Michael Carbone
Majority Leader



Let's keep the hard work going for Arizona

Read more about the Majority Plan for 2025.

We are intentionally staying laser focused on what most Arizonans want and need.

[See Plan](#)



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