



I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to bring to your attention four significant bills I sponsored that were recently vetoed by Governor Katie Hobbs. These bills aimed to address pressing issues in our state.

Some of these include energy innovation, Medicaid fraud prevention, affordable housing, and unemployment insurance reform. Despite bipartisan support and clear alignment with public priorities outlined in the [Arizona House Republican 2025 Majority Plan](#), these efforts were rejected.

Each and every veto undermines what Arizonans have repeatedly said they want — and no wonder Governor Hobbs currently holds the [lowest favorability rating](#) of any governor in the nation.

VETOED - [House Bill 2774](#) Facilitating Energy Innovation in Rural Arizona

This bill would have streamlined the permitting process for small modular nuclear reactors (SMRs), making it easier to bring clean, reliable power to large employers and rural Arizona communities. This would help attract data centers and manufacturers while creating high-paying jobs in underserved areas.



Governor Hobbs vetoed the bill, citing concerns over exempting a not-yet-commercialized technology. In doing so, she blocked a critical economic development tool.

Arizonans overwhelmingly support economic development and job creation —this is clearly outlined under “Economic Opportunity for All Arizonans” in the [Majority Plan](#).

WHY IS THIS VETO BAD FOR ARIZONANS? The veto denies opportunity to rural families who are counting on economic revitalization.

[Source](#)

VETOED - [House Bill 2449](#) Strengthening Medicaid Fraud Prevention

This bill aimed to tighten eligibility oversight and close loopholes for potential fraud in Arizona’s Medicaid system to ensure benefits go to those who truly need them. The bill followed best practices from other states and had no associated costs.

Governor Hobbs vetoed the bill, claiming it was too expensive. That’s simply not true. This action undermines public trust in healthcare stewardship and leaves the door open to waste and abuse.

Arizonans want fiscal discipline and transparency, especially in healthcare—a priority under “Protecting Taxpayers” in the [Majority Plan](#).

WHY IS THIS VETO BAD FOR ARIZONANS? The veto goes against the public’s call for responsible, effective use of limited resources.

Sources [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#)



NEWS RELEASE

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

Wednesday, May 7, 2025
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Governor Hobbs Vetoes Medicaid Fraud and Abuse Prevention Legislation

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Arizona House Majority Leader Michael Carbone today denounced Governor Katie Hobbs for vetoing [HB2449](#), legislation he sponsored to crack down on waste, fraud, and abuse in Arizona’s Medicaid program.

“Governor Hobbs just vetoed my bill that would have rooted out fraud and abuse in Arizona’s Medicaid program and protect public healthcare resources for those who truly need them.

“By its own estimate, the poorly named Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System has wasted over \$3 billion in improper Medicaid payments since 2018, most of which is from failing to properly verify the eligibility of enrollees.

“HB2449 would have closed loopholes that allow key eligibility factors to go unchecked during the Medicaid enrollment process and would have required more frequent eligibility checks.

“Governor Hobbs claims that implementing these safeguards would cost the state resources—but that simply isn’t true. Other states—including Arkansas, Indiana, North Carolina, and Texas—have adopted the very same cross-checking tools required in my bill without incurring additional costs.

“We should use every tool at our disposal to protect taxpayer dollars and limited public resources for the truly needy. But apparently Governor Hobbs believes that protecting bureaucrats from additional work is more important.

“Unfortunately, this is not the first time that Governor Hobbs has been reckless with Arizona’s Medicaid program. In 2023, it was the Republican legislature that forced the Hobbs administration to expedite the removal of hundreds of thousands of ineligible people from the Medicaid rolls, which saved Arizona taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars. My legislation would have led to even more savings.

“Arizona voters sent a loud message in 2024 that they are tired of business as usual. Governor Hobbs talks a big game about cleaning up wasteful government spending, but her actions show that it is all talk.”

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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On the bright side, we are making steady progress in the great state of Arizona, especially as we focus on securing a balanced state budget. That is because we are always keeping you, our constituents, in mind.



Thank you for taking the time to stay informed on these important matters. Your laser-focused attention and unwavering support are crucial in ensuring that we can address the challenges facing our communities and state.



Governor Hobbs has ignored the will of Arizona voters on each of these issues. These vetoes undermine solutions that Arizonans not only support, but urgently need.

I will continue to stand up for common-sense policies that protect taxpayers, strengthen families, and expand opportunity.

Together, we can work toward creating a well-planned state future where every Arizonan has the opportunity to thrive.

Best regards,
Representative Michael Carbone
Majority Leader

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