

Michael Carbone  
ARIZONA STATE HOUSE

# LEGISLATIVE update



The state budget is one of the most important responsibilities we tackle together by listening to our constituents as well as working with the State Senate and the Governor. I'm excited to share some updates and insights about our progress.

Crafting a budget isn't just about numbers—it's about prioritizing what matters most to our communities, from education and infrastructure to public safety and economic growth. And it is also about masterminding a conservative and fiscally responsible state budget that aligns with Arizona voters and our [Majority Plan](#).

**I'm committed to ensuring that every decision we make reflects the values and needs of the people of Arizona.**



## NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives  
Speaker Steve Montenegro (R-29)  
Majority Leader Michael Carbone (R-25)  
1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007

Friday, June 27, 2025  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### House Republicans Secure Over \$100 Million in Savings, Protect Conservative Priorities in Revised Budget Package

**STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX** – After passing a structurally balanced, conservative budget earlier this month that prioritized public safety, limited government, and lower costs for Arizona families, House Republicans approved the only budget plan the governor is willing to sign—while securing major concessions, including more than \$100 million in spending cuts.

The Arizona House of Representatives passed a revised budget package that reflects significant changes driven by House Republicans, following the governor's vetoes of both the [original House-passed budget](#) and a [continuation budget](#) to keep state government operating.

**“We’ve stood firm all session—pushing for a budget that prioritizes public safety, school choice, lower costs, and government accountability,”** said Speaker of the House Steve Montenegro. **“That’s the plan we passed earlier this month, and it’s still the plan we support. In the current divided government, we had a choice: allow a shutdown or improve the plan left on the table. We chose to fight—and secured more than \$100 million in savings and critical reforms that would not have happened without us.”**

The original House-passed budget included deeper reforms, broad tax relief, and stronger restraint on government spending—but it was vetoed by the governor. House Republicans continued to fight for meaningful improvements throughout negotiations.

Key priorities secured by House Republicans in the revised budget include:

- \$100 million in spending reductions compared to the original Senate-Governor negotiated plan.
- Stronger oversight and accountability provisions for public funds.
- New reporting requirements in Department of Economic Security.
- \$100 million less in revenue enhancing gimmicks.
- Public safety investments, including pay raises for DPS troopers and vehicle fleet modernization.
- Fully funds Arizona prisons and new stipend for correctional officers.
- Major infrastructure improvements to I-10 and State Routes 347 and 303/155<sup>th</sup> Avenue Interchange.
- Permanent property tax exemption for 100% disabled, low-income veterans.
- New auditors with expanded authority for county treasurers.
- Replenished wildland firefighting fund.
- Full funding and protection of school choice, ensuring families retain access to trusted education options.
- Fully funds Parents as Paid Caregivers, Developmental Disability, and Adult Protective Services system.

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#### Negotiated House Wins on the Senate-Gov budget

- ✓ \$100 million reduction in spending in budget window
- ✓ \$100 million less gimmicks: PDRF reduced from \$150M to \$100M in '27 and '28
- ✓ Budget includes Auditor General funding plus 11 new auditors; Gov agreed to sign HB2369 to allow OAG access to accounting record of county audits
  - Prevent another Santa Cruz County style theft of taxpayer monies
  - OAG provided resources it needs for special audits
- ✓ Responding to explosive growth in Developmental Disabilities program

- No longer can exec deny Legislature key data
- New reporting requirements on utilization by service category
- Requires key data breaking out state spending by disability category
- ✓ DD group home monitoring pilot shortened by 3 years
  - Exec wanted 5 years, amended to 2 years
  - Pilot program and funding goes exclusively towards activist lobbying entity
- ✓ Runway train in School Facilities Division stopped
  - Prevents next "alt-fuels" type scandal
  - Governor's School Facilities Division at ADOA recently adopted a new pilot program: End of Useful Life
  - Sent a bill to legislature for \$8m in new spending
  - This "pilot" could easily balloon to a 9 figure number
  - Exec agreed to curtail this program, pilot may only approve up to \$10m next year
- ✓ Spouses of Law Enforcement Scholarship Fund now permanent law (higher ED BRB)
  - First \$500k available in \$10m fund for Mil Spouses will go to this fund
  - Estimated to cover current demand
- ✓ Public safety grants for information sharing [FIMS & RMS] \$5m
- ✓ \$3.5m for SR 303/155th Ave Interchange Design Costs
- ✓ \$850k Olga Road Pavement Preservation/Rehabilitation Design Costs
- ✓ Resisted new demands by Exec for ESA cuts or changes

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House Republicans passed a conservative, structurally balanced budget on June 13. When that was rejected, we passed a continuation budget to prevent a shutdown and keep essential state services running.

That was vetoed too. This revised budget isn't the one we would have written, but with time running out and the risk of a shutdown increasing, we fought for and secured serious improvements.

We cut spending by \$100 million, added strong transparency requirements, and locked in public safety pay raises. Those changes matter.

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MICHAEL CARBONE  
AZ STATE HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE, LD25  
AND MAJORITY LEADER  
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## Governor Hobbs signed the bipartisan FY26 State Budget into law on Friday afternoon

This bi-partisan and bi-cameral feat is a true testament that we can come together and accomplish great things. The key is to always keep the most important things in mind: the people of Arizona and the hope of a bright future through our actions.



I want to thank you for taking the time to stay informed about these critical issues.

It's not always easy to strike the right balance, but I'm committed to working hard every day to represent your interests and fight for solutions that improve our state.

Together, we can keep moving Arizona forward!

Thank you for your continued support.  
Best regards,

**Representative Michael Carbone**  
Majority Leader

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