STATE OF ARIZONA

JANICE K. BREWER
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

May 11, 2010

The Honorable Ken Bennett
Secretary of State
1700 W. Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: House Bill 2240 (recovery audits; public funds)

Dear Secretary Bennett,

Today I vetoed House Bill 2240. This bill would have required the Auditor General to contract with consultants to conduct a recovery audit of payments made by state agencies to vendors over the past three fiscal years.

This bill was introduced to recover overpayments to vendors and to recommend improved state agency accounting operations. I support eliminating wasteful spending and increasing efficiencies in state government; however, this bill would result in the delegation of Executive authority to the Legislature. It is the Executive's responsibility to ensure that payments are made properly and the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) is already charged with that responsibility. In fact, the ADOA General Accounting Office initiated a similar cost recover audit with a private vendor in FY 2008. Moreover, ADOA is well underway with other transparency initiatives, including the launching of a new searchable state website detailing all state expenditures and revenues.

I commend the sponsor of the bill for his desire to ensure that state monies are spent appropriately and accurately. In order to alleviate any concerns over state expenditures, I have directed ADOA to issue a Request for Proposal to have a audit recovery contract in place by October 1, 2010.

Sincerely,

Janice K. Brewer
Governor

cc: The Honorable Kirk Adams
The Honorable Robert Burns
The Honorable Andy Tobin

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