



STATE OF ARIZONA

JANICE K. BREWER  
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

April 10, 2012

The Honorable Steve Pierce  
President of the Senate  
Arizona State Senate  
1700 W. Washington  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

RE: Senate Bill 1200 (political signs; hazardous locations)

Dear President Pierce,

Today, I vetoed Senate Bill 1200. The bill establishes additional protocol for notifying a candidate or committee if a city, town or county determines a political sign is placed in a hazardous location. The bill further specifies that a candidate may place signage on a state highway or route right-of-way fence and allows an owner of a property to remove any political sign from a public right-of-way adjacent to their property.

In 2009, I vetoed a bill that preempted local citizens' preferences to regulate political signage in their own communities and would have allowed a candidate to post signs virtually anywhere. Last year, I signed House Bill 2500 which was agreed upon by localities as a compromise.

In addition to its primary intent, Senate Bill 1200 allows political signs along public right-of-ways on state highways. This provision was expressly removed from previous bills. Senate Bill 1200 does not restrict political sign placement on Arizona's busiest highways which could lead to public safety dangers.

Lastly, the allowance given to remove political signs on a public right-of-way is broadly written and contrary to the First Amendment rights this bill attempts to protect.

I look forward to working with the sponsor to find a balance with rural area highway signage and highway safety.

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These concerns are among the primary reasons I have vetoed Senate Bill 1200.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janice K. Brewer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Janice K. Brewer  
Governor

cc: The Honorable Andy Tobin  
The Honorable Sylvia Allen