



# NEWS RELEASE

**Arizona House of Representatives**

**Representative T.J. Shope (R-8)**

1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007-2844

---

**Wednesday, February 8, 2017  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Speaker Pro Tempore T.J. Shope Named Legislator of the Year by Arizona Alliance for Community Health Centers



**STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX** – House Speaker Pro Tempore T.J. Shope (R-8) was named the 2017 Legislator of the Year today by the Arizona Alliance for Community Health Centers (AACHC).

**“It’s a tremendous honor to receive an award like this by an organization as highly-regarded as the Arizona Alliance for Community Health Centers,”** said Speaker Pro Tempore Shope. **“Their commitment to advocating on behalf of high quality, community-oriented health care continues**

**to help the underserved community in rural Arizona and across the state as a whole.”**

Established in 1985, the AACHC serves as Arizona’s Primary Care Association (PCA), with a mission of “promoting and facilitating the development and delivery of affordable and accessible community-oriented, high quality, culturally effective primary healthcare for everyone in the state of Arizona through advocacy, education, and technical assistance.”

Speaker Pro Tempore Shope is being recognized for his work expanding the Arizona Loan Repayment Program, which was signed into law last year. This legislation expanded eligible providers to include mental health providers, pharmacists, and geriatrics, while also increasing loan repayment incentives for providers and increasing the service year participation the past four years.

Community Health Centers in Speaker Pro Tempore Shope's district include: Sun Life Family Health Center (Casa Grande, Coolidge, Eloy, Florence, Oracle and San Manuel) and Horizon Health and Wellness (Kearny, Oracle, San Manuel, and Superior) and Canyonlands (Globe).

###

**CONTACT:**

Matthew Specht

Director of Communications

House Majority Staff

602-926-5518

[mspecht@azleg.gov](mailto:mspecht@azleg.gov)