



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives
House Majority Whip Kelly Townsend (R-16)
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Representative Townsend Applauds Passage of DCS Reform Bill

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – House Majority Whip Kelly Townsend (R-16) applauded last week's House and Senate passage of [SB 1003](#), legislation that reforms the Department of Child Safety (DCS).

SB 1003 creates a Joint Legislative Oversight Committee and consolidated reporting requirements for DCS. Representative Townsend was able to add an amendment to the bill prohibiting DCS from covertly using a controversial voice stress analysis during investigations, permitting parents to record their interviews with DCS, and requiring DCS to obtain a court order to take custody of a child in most cases.

"The Department of Child Safety has one of the most important missions of state government: protecting those who cannot protect themselves," said Representative Townsend. **"SB 1003 ensures that the 4th Amendment rights of parents and children will be respected by requiring a court order to remove children from a home."**

"I applaud stakeholders for working out a thoughtful compromise, and I am proud to have been a part of that process."

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