

## STATE OF ARIZONA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Katie Hobbs Governor

May 16, 2023

Representative Ben Toma Speaker of the House 1700 W. Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: HB2312

Speaker Toma,

I have vetoed House Bill 2312.

As someone who dedicated my career to advocating for victims of domestic violence and their families, I know what it takes to deliver the highest level of care, safe shelter, helpful counseling, and proper connections to community support.

Arizonans who choose to work in domestic violence shelters and services are among our most qualified, dedicated public servants who are hired and retained for individual skills, merits, and employment histories regardless of their sex. They deserve the freedom to live their lives without laws targeting them for their gender identity.

Instead of improving or facilitating access to the resources that victims need, this misguided and unnecessary legislation merely allows providers to discriminate on the basis of sex.

Sincerely,

Katie Hotbbs Governor

State of Arizona

Cc: President Petersen Representative Jones Secretary of the Senate Chief Clerk of the House Secretary Fontes