



KATIE HOBBS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

April 15, 2025

The Honorable Steve Montenegro
Speaker of the House
Arizona House of Representatives
1700 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

RE: House Bills 2086, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2094, 2202, 2270

Speaker Montenegro,

Today, I vetoed the following bills:

- HB 2086 water improvements program; water hauling
- HB 2088 subsequent AMA; director; removal
- HB 2089 subsequent AMA; voters; removal
- HB 2090 acting in concert; evidence; exceptions
- HB 2094 real estate; definition of contiguous
- HB 2202 subsequent AMA; previously nonirrigated land
- HB 2270 groundwater model; stormwater recharge; AMAs

Each of these bills was sponsored by Representative Gail Griffin. Disappointingly, none of these bills make a difference in solving the water policy challenges that Arizona residents and communities are facing today.

I said in my State of the State: bills that are just political cover for the Legislature's inaction on water security will meet my veto pen.

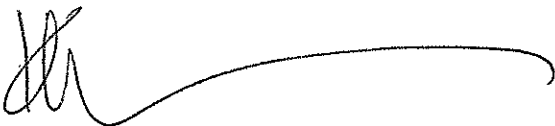
These bills either weaken rural groundwater protections or make pointless, trivial statutory changes that demean the rural Arizonans who have been asking the Legislature for years to institute meaningful rural groundwater management measures.

Since day one of my administration, I have backed rural groundwater reform legislation with strong bipartisan support from across rural Arizona. We are currently negotiating

an alternative framework for rural groundwater management, and I will not entertain any rural groundwater legislation that is outside the context of those negotiations.

My administration waits for you at the negotiating table, ready to find compromise and solve this problem. I hope that 2025 will be the year where Arizonans finally see good faith negotiations from their Legislature on rural groundwater protections.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Katie Hobbs
Governor
State of Arizona

cc:

The Honorable Warren Petersen
The Honorable Gail Griffin
The Honorable Adrian Fontes