STATE OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KATIE HOBBS
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

May 5, 2026

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

RE: House Bills 4138, 4139, 4140, 4141, 4142, 4143, 4144, 4145, 4146, 4147, 4148, 4149, 4150, 4151, 4152, 4153

Speaker Montenegro,

Today, I vetoed the following bills:

- HB4138 2026-2027; general appropriations act
- HB4139 2026-2027; amusements
- HB4140 2026-2027; state budget implementation
- HB4141 capital outlay; 2026-2027; appropriations
- HB4142 2026-2027; commerce
- HB4143 2026-2027; criminal justice
- HB4144 2026-2027; environment
- HB4145 2026-2027; health care
- HB4146 2026-2027; higher education
- HB4147 2026-2027; human services
- HB4148 2026-2027; K-12 education
- HB4149 2026-2027; local government
- HB4150 management; state properties; 2026-2027
- HB4151 2026-2027; revenue
- HB4152 2026-2027; taxation; omnibus
- HB4153 2026-2027; transportation

This budget is unbalanced and reckless. With it, Arizona would default on our debt obligations, endanger vulnerable children, slash critical public safety funding, and pay for tax breaks to billionaires, data centers and special interests by kicking Arizonans off their healthcare and

taking food off their tables. Arizonans cannot afford chaotic and dysfunctional Washington-style budgeting in our state government.

This budget has a long list of problems, but to name a few, it:

- Delivers over $600M in tax breaks to billionaires, data centers and special interests while kicking up to 200,000 Arizonans off their healthcare and taking food off their table;
- Ends funding for the Rio Nuevo project, eliminating good-paying jobs and defaulting on the state's debt obligations;
- Cuts $16 million from DCS, potentially forcing the agency to cut spending on social workers and putting vulnerable kids in harms way;
- Cuts $1.8 million in SUN Bucks, leaving 640,000 children to go hungry during the summer and forfeiting $79 million in federal funds;
- No funding for the Colorado River Litigation Fund or the Colorado River Protection Fund, undermining our ability to fight for our fair share of water;
- Sweeps money from the Arizona Competes Fund, risking 21,000 jobs and kneecapping our ability to compete with other states for business investments;
- Cuts $2.2 million from the Department of Forestry and Fire Management and invests nothing in wildfire suppression, putting Arizonans at risk during wildfire season;
- Sweeps the Border Security Fund, yanking critical resources away from local law enforcement who keep illicit activity out of our communities;
- Includes previously vetoed bills that kick Arizonans off their health care and take food off their tables.

While forcing devastating cuts on Arizonans, the legislature has refused to sweep their own $28 million slush fund, including $6 million that may be used to replace their carpets, upgrade their media studio and renovate their offices. I have made it clear that I will engage in good-faith negotiation. But I will not sign a budget that brings Washington-style chaos and dysfunction to Arizona's budget. Let's get back to the negotiating table and get serious about delivering for Arizonans. I am ready when you are.

Sincerely,

Katie Hobbs
Governor
State of Arizona

cc:
The Honorable Warren Petersen
The Honorable David Livingston
The Honorable Adrian Fontes