



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative Mark Finchem (R-11)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rep. Finchem: Unity is More Than a Word – It’s a Call to Action

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Representative Mark Finchem (R-11) today announced the launch of the Legislative Prayer Caucus Foundation.

At the beginning of the 2018 legislative session, the Arizona Legislative Prayer Caucus was formed, in cooperation with the Congressional Prayer Caucus, to support legislators from both the House and Senate with unity through prayer and supplication.

Over the summer, regular participants in the Legislative Prayer Caucus moved to create the Legislative Prayer Caucus Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to assisting legislators with urgent needs and emergency support for events that may interfere with the execution of their elected office duties.

“The point of the Legislative Prayer Caucus and the Foundation is to bring unity to the body of the House and Senate, irrespective of faith, party, or ideology,” said Representative Mark Finchem, one of the founders of the Arizona Legislative Prayer Caucus. **“It is my hopeful prayer that the Foundation will indeed bring unity to a very fractured, divided center of government.”**

Foundation Board Member, Pastor Drew Anderson, a registered Democrat, has worked with Republican Representative Finchem to create an environment that is welcoming, non-judgmental, and open to all who want to have prayerful support. “Representative Finchem and I had the same vision, voiced independently; that vision is for UNITY,” said Pastor Anderson.

Legislative Chaplain Donna Kafer also serves on the Board of Directors for the Foundation, as well as State Prayer Caucus Director Renee Padilla.

“We have seen divisiveness creep into every corner of our society, from political parties bludgeoning each other, to hecklers in restaurants, and even the harassment of elected

officials by their colleagues. Most sane people would agree that enough is enough; it is time to return to a culture of civility, one that values civic friendship and seeks to end the bullying tactics used by those who, in their own vain pursuits, seek only to take power,” says Representative Finchem. **“It is time to build each other up, we have experienced plenty of distraction brought on by division. Every legislator is invited to meet for a time that they can lay their burdens down and share what is on their hearts with their peers.”**

For more information on the Legislative Prayer Caucus Foundation, inquiries may be made to State Director Renee Padilla at Renee@arizonaprayercaucus.com.

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