



NEWS RELEASE

**Arizona House of Representatives
House Republican Caucus**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

House Republican Leadership Applaud Passage of Budget for Fiscal Year 2020

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Members of House Republican Leadership today applauded the passage of the budget for fiscal year 2020, which continues significant investments in education and infrastructure, protects our citizens and the vulnerable, and secures the state’s fiscal future.

“Governor Ducey and the Legislative Republicans have crafted a budget that spends \$5.6 billion, almost half the state’s general fund budget, to continue our investment in K-12 education, including money for the 20x2020 teacher pay raises, over \$136 million in district additional assistance, and \$70 million in Results Based Funding,” said Speaker Rusty Bowers (R-25). **“In addition to the investments made in K-12 education, the budget also includes \$37 million to community colleges for expansion of healthcare, aviation, and STEM programs.”**

“Without action by legislative Republicans, Arizonans would have faced a tax increase of over \$215 million due to conformity and \$85 million based on the impact of the Wayfair Supreme Court decision,” said House Majority Leader Warren Petersen (R-12). **“This budget offsets those tax increases while reforming our tax code by reducing the number of brackets, reducing tax rates, and increasing the standard deduction to match that of the federal government. This will keep money in the pockets of taxpayers, where it belongs, and simplify the tax filing process. This budget also makes a sizable contribution to our state’s rainy day fund to safeguard against any future economic downturns.”**

“With \$57 million for the childcare block grant, over \$44 million in funding for the developmentally disabled and elderly, \$15 million for the housing trust fund, and millions of dollars of funding for other programs above baseline spending, this budget honors the state’s commitment to protect the most vulnerable members of our community,” said House Majority Whip Becky Nutt (R-14).

“As Arizona continues to grow, so do our infrastructure needs,” said House Speaker Pro Tempore T.J. Shope (R-8). **“This budget devotes substantial resources to expand and improve our infrastructure, such as \$130 million for expansion of the I-17, \$10 million to begin studying the widening of the I-10, \$28 million to widen U.S. Route 95 in Yuma, \$20 million for the I-40 interchange in Kingman, and \$18 million to cities and towns for local infrastructure projects.”**

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