Arizona Enacts Law Increasing Prison Terms for Child Sex Crimes & Requiring Mandatory Prison Time for Child/Human Trafficking & Smuggling

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – House Republican Majority Whip Leo Biasiucci celebrated the enactment today of HB 2696, legislation he sponsored that triples the term of imprisonment for adults convicted of certain child sex crimes, as well as provides that persons convicted of certain sex crimes, human smuggling, and human trafficking must be sentenced to prison and are not eligible for suspension of sentence, probation, or pardon until after their sentence has been served or commuted.

Governor Ducey signed the bill today in a ceremony at the Arizona State Capitol with Representative Biasiucci in attendance.

“Child trafficking, human trafficking, and human smuggling have no place in the State of Arizona,” said Representative Biasiucci. “In times when the federal government refuses to do its job and protect Arizona’s border, it’s up to us to act and protect our citizens. I’m proud to have sponsored this important legislation to ensure that anyone convicted of these heinous crimes serves mandatory prison time with no chance of parole! I appreciate the strong support of Governor Ducey and my fellow legislators. These new laws will combat these crimes and make Arizona safer for everyone.”

Representative Biasiucci appreciates the strong bipartisan support of the following cosponsors of HB 2696: State Representatives Brenda Barton, Walt Blackman, Shawnna Bolick, Rusty Bowers, Judy Burges, Frank Carroll, Neal Carter, Joseph Chaplik, Regina Cobb, David Cook, Lupe Diaz, Tim Dunn, Diego Espinoza, John Fillmore, Mark Finchem, Travis Grantham, Gail Griffin, Jake Hoffman, Joel John, Steve Kaiser, John Kavanagh, Teresa Martinez, Robert Meza, Quang Nguyen, Joanne Osborne, Jacqueline Parker, Kevin Payne, Beverly Pingerelli, Ben Toma, Jeff Weninger, Justin Wilmeth, and State Senator Sonny Borrelli.

Leo Biasiucci is a State Representative and Republican Majority Whip for the Arizona House of Representatives serving Legislative District 5, which includes La Paz and Mohave Counties. Follow him on Twitter at @Leo4AzHouse.

###