



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative Leo Biasiucci (R-30)

1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Republican House & Senate Majority Leaders Host Emergency Special Meeting in Mohave County on Biden's Unwanted Unilateral Federal Land Grab

KINGMAN – Arizona House Majority Leader Leo Biasiucci and Senate Majority Leader Sonny Borrelli last week called on the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Natural Resources, Energy and Water (Rep. Gail Griffin and Sen. Sine Kerr), as well as the Chair of the House Committee on Land, Agriculture and Rural Affairs (Rep. Lupe Diaz) to hold an emergency, joint committee hearing in Kingman to hear testimony on President Biden's radical proposal to circumvent Congress and unilaterally declare a new 1.1 million acre “national monument” near the Grand Canyon in Mohave and Coconino Counties.

If established, the “Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni Grand Canyon National Monument” would permanently withdraw 1.1 million acres of U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management land from economic production and ban all uranium mining, cattle grazing and other multiple use opportunities in the area forever, while also severely limiting opportunities for hunting, fishing and recreation for Arizona residents and visitors alike. The move would also likely violate the Statehood Enabling Act.

President Biden is anticipated to make an announcement near the Grand Canyon on Tuesday, August 8, where it is expected that he will cave to radical environmentalists' demands and unilaterally declare the establishment of the monument without considering public input from local communities or the potential impact to our state's economy and national security.

“Mohave County doesn't want this monument,” said House Majority Leader Leo Biasiucci. **“We must give the members of the local community an opportunity to be heard.”**

“The federal government already controls too much of our land,” said Senate Majority Leader Sonny Borrelli. **“The President should not be allowed to take away our land and economic opportunities without the consent of the legislature.”**

On July 18, the U.S. Department of the Interior held a public comment session in Coconino County, where support for the designation is concentrated, but scheduled no equivalent public comment session in Mohave County, where public opposition is strong. The move was viewed as an attempt to cut out local voices in opposition and circumvent any true stakeholder process.

Rep. Griffin, Sen. Kerr and Rep. Diaz answered the call and quickly mobilized to schedule the meeting. The emergency special meeting will give members of the local community an opportunity to have their voices heard.

The meeting will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 8, 2023, at the Mohave County Board of Supervisors meeting room at 700 W. Beale Street, Kingman, Arizona 86401.

A public notice, agenda and livestream link for the meeting can be found [here](#).

Leo Biasiucci is a State Representative and Republican Majority Leader for the Arizona House of Representatives serving Legislative District 30, which includes La Paz, Maricopa, and Mohave Counties. Follow him on Twitter at @Leo4AzHouse.

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