



NEWS ADVISORY

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative Matt Gress (R-4)

1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007

Wednesday, October 25, 2023
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

State Representative Matt Gress Calls for Extra Inning of Celebration: Extend Bar Hours for World Series

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – In the wake of the Arizona Diamondbacks' thrilling victory in the 2023 National League Championship, State Representative Matt Gress is urging Governor Hobbs to issue an executive order extending the time for businesses to sell alcohol during the World Series. See his letter attached below.

This historic moment for the Diamondbacks, who last clinched the championship in 2001, has ignited a wave of excitement across Arizona. As the team embarks on their journey to face the Texas Rangers, Representative Gress is rallying for an extension of bar service hours to 3:00 a.m., giving fans an extra hour of celebration.

“Arizona is a state of champions, and the Diamondbacks’ journey to the World Series exemplifies that spirit,” said Representative Gress. **“By extending service hours, we’re giving fans an extra hour to celebrate and support our local businesses. Let’s come together, have fun, and show the world why Arizona is the place to be.”**

The request is based on Arizona Revised Statute A.R.S. § 4-244(15)(b), which allows the governor to issue an executive order extending alcohol sales hours for professional or collegiate national sporting championship events.

Representative Gress emphasized the importance of collaboration with public safety officials to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all: **“We can strike a balance between celebration and responsibility. With input from our dedicated public safety community, we can make this World Series a memorable and safe event for everyone involved.”**

Matt Gress is a Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives serving Legislative District 4 in Phoenix. He serves as Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Budgetary Funding Formulas and is the Vice Chairman of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee. Follow him on X/Twitter at @MatthewGress.

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Arizona House of Representatives
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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CAPITAL REVIEW

October 25, 2023

Honorable Katie Hobbs
Governor of Arizona
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Governor Hobbs,

This weekend marks the beginning of an exciting, momentous time for all Arizonans. Just last night, the Arizona Diamondbacks defied expectations by winning the 2023 National League Championship. Now, our beloved Dbacks move on to the World Series for the second time ever in the team's history. The Diamondbacks won in 2001, triumphing over the Yankees in a seven-game classic, and they will do so once again in this unlikely matchup against the Texas Rangers.

Arizona is a tourism magnet providing nearly 365 days of sunshine, a positively enviable bar and foodie scene, all coupled with a neighborly small-town atmosphere. Our beautiful state is no stranger to hosting sporting events including Spring Training, the Waste Management Open, and even Super Bowls, and it will undoubtedly be prepared to host baseball lovers around the world beginning this weekend.

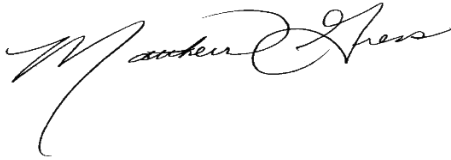
This letter serves as an official request to you to authorize A.R.S. § 4-244(15)(b) throughout the duration of the World Series. The aforementioned statute states:

" 15. For an on-sale or off-sale retailer or an employee of such retailer or an alcohol delivery contractor to sell, dispose of, deliver or give spirituous liquor to a person between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., except that: ...

(b) The governor, in consultation with the governor's office of highway safety and the public safety community in this state, *may issue an executive order that extends the closing time until 3:00 a.m. for spirituous liquor sales in connection with a professional or collegiate national sporting championship event held in this state.*"

Let us cater to our ever-loyal fans and hard-working businesses and allow the extension of bar serving hours until 3 A.M. With input from a team of dedicated public safety officials, we can find a way to encourage a fun and safe way to #EmbraceTheChaos.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Gress". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Matt" being particularly prominent.

Matt Gress
State Representative - Legislative District 4
Arizona House of Representatives

CC: Chad Campbell, Chief of Staff
J.M. "Jesse" Torrez, Director and Governor's Highway Safety Representative
Colonel Jeffrey Glover, Director of the Arizona Department of Public Safety
Ben Henry, Director of the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control
Susan Dzbanko, Interim Director of the Arizona Department of Homeland Security