



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Speaker Ben Toma (R-27)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement from Arizona House Speaker Ben Toma

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Arizona House Speaker Ben Toma released a statement on today’s vote on HB 2677:

“I am deeply disappointed. As I have said before, Democrats apparently believe that abortions should occur with no limits and no regulations.

“We should not have rushed this bill through the legislative process. The pre-Roe law has been on the books for decades and was readopted in 1977 by Democrats and Republicans in the State Legislature and signed by Democrat Governor Raul Castro.

“It would have been prudent and responsible to allow the courts to decide the constitutionality of the pre-Roe law. Instead, we are rushing to judgment for reasons I simply cannot understand.

“I fervently disagree with my Democrat colleagues who advocate for extremism through unlimited, unrestricted, and unregulated abortions. Abortions are not healthcare. Abortion kills life. Abortion kills the most vulnerable members of our society. Just because the mother of that child may not want that child, does not mean that the child is not precious and have inherent value.

“Again, the chaos, outburst, personal attacks, and lack of decorum we saw from the Democratic side of this aisle—displayed on the House Floor two weeks ago—is completely unacceptable. This institution is a legislative body. We must be able to respectfully disagree and debate policy while we make critical decisions for the people of Arizona. This chamber must be one of respective deliberation and consideration, and I ask all my colleagues to behave with the respect that this institution deserves.

“I feel compelled to reiterate my personal view that this decision to repeal the abortion ban in Arizona effectively means that we are allowing the murder of unborn children up to 15 weeks of pregnancy.

“I call on Governor Hobbs to rescind her executive order stripping county attorneys of their authority to prosecute abortion-related crimes. But I am not optimistic that she or Attorney General Mayes will uphold the will of the people or the rule of law. Democrats are pushing radicalism and will not relent until Arizona recognizes abortion on demand and abortion through 9 months of pregnancy.

“Arizonans do not want abortions on demand, partial birth abortions, abortions for children without parental consent, or dangerous abortions that jeopardize the health of pregnant women and their children. And most Arizonans do not support the killing of unborn children up to 15 weeks. I vote no.”

Ben Toma is the Speaker of the Arizona House of Representatives and serves Legislative District 27, which includes areas of Glendale, Peoria, and Phoenix. Follow him on X/Twitter at @RepBenToma.