



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives
Majority Leader Michael Carbone (R-25)
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives Joins Multistate Lawsuit to Unleash American Nuclear Energy Dominance

Seeks to Break Federal Barriers Blocking Deployment of New Nuclear Energy Technology

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Under the leadership of Speaker Steve Montenegro and Majority Leader Michael Carbone, the Arizona House of Representatives has joined a [multistate lawsuit](#) against the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to strike down improper federal licensing rules that are stalling deployment of advanced nuclear energy technology, like small modular reactors (SMRs).

The House stands with Texas, Florida, Utah, Louisiana, and several U.S. nuclear companies in calling for an end to the federal blockade that has made it nearly impossible to build ultra-modern, safe nuclear facilities in the U.S. The lawsuit challenges a decades-old NRC rule that unlawfully imposes the same licensing requirements on small, ultra-safe nuclear reactors as it does on full-scale, traditional nuclear power plants. The rule misinterprets federal law to prevent newer, more advanced nuclear technologies like SMRs from entering the U.S. energy market.

“This is a textbook case of Washington bureaucrats getting in the way of American progress,” said Speaker Montenegro. **“America is behind the modern world when it comes to nuclear advancement. We have had this technology for decades, yet the NRC has not let us advance, stifling innovation. Arizona House Republicans are pushing back. We’re standing up for American innovation, lower energy costs, and true energy independence.”**

“Small modular reactors are the kind of clean, reliable, American-made technology we should use to meet growing energy demand,” said Majority Leader Carbone. **“They’re meltdown-proof, can be deployed when needed, and run on recycled fuel. But thanks to the NRC, these technologies can’t move forward while our competitors overseas surge ahead. That stops now.”**

“The people of Arizona sent us to the Capitol to lead—and that’s exactly what we’re doing,” added Majority Leader Carbone. **“This lawsuit is part of our broader [House Republican Majority Plan](#) to cut red tape, rein in unelected bureaucrats, and prepare Arizona for the next generation of energy innovation. Securing a reliable and affordable power grid for Arizona families while advancing U.S. manufacturing are top priorities. This lawsuit gets the federal government out of the way and allows SMRs, which are already being used or explored abroad, to power our burgeoning industries right here at home.”**

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