



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona State Legislature

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arizona Republicans Move to Repeal Cesar Chavez Day from State Law Following Reports of Predatory Sexual Crimes Against Women, Children

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – House and Senate Republicans are advancing legislation to repeal an Arizona law recognizing Cesar Chavez Day, following reports this week detailing [Chavez’s sexual assaults against women and children](#).

The repeal will move forward through a strike-everything amendment sponsored by Senator Shawna Bolick to [HB 2072](#), a bill introduced by Representative Lisa Fink. Senator Bolick will hear the amendment in her Senate Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Committee next week.

“We are not going to keep honoring a man who committed sexual abuse against children and assaulted women. That should not be controversial,” said House Speaker Steve Montenegro. **“If even the Governor is stepping back from recognizing Cesar Chavez this year, then the Legislature needs to finish the job. Looking the other way is not leadership.”**

“This is about what our laws say and what they stand for,” said Representative Fink. **“As long as this remains in statute, Arizona is still honoring that conduct. Repealing it is the right and responsible step, and it sends a clear message that we stand with victims.”**

“The conduct described is heinous, and it demands a clear and immediate response,” said President Warren Petersen. **“Protecting children and holding predators accountable is a fundamental responsibility of government. Arizona law should never be used to honor someone tied to that kind of harm. This should receive unanimous, bipartisan support. Anything less would be a failure to stand with victims and uphold the basic duty to protect the vulnerable. There is no greater crime than one committed against a child.”**

“As someone who has worked to strengthen protections for victims and vulnerable populations, I take this seriously,” said Senator Bolick. **“We have to be consistent. We cannot say we stand with victims and then maintain laws that send a conflicting message. This is about ensuring Arizona law reflects a clear commitment to protecting victims and upholding accountability.”**

The Senate Committee on Regulatory Affairs & Government Efficiency happens Wednesday, March 25 at 9 a.m.

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For more information, contact:

Andrew Wilder
Director of Communications | Arizona House Republican Caucus
awilder@azleg.gov

Kim Quintero
Director of Communications | Arizona Senate Republican Caucus
kquintero@azleg.gov