



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives
Representative Alexander Kolodin (R-3)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rep. Alexander Kolodin Backs Biggs Bill to Secure New Water Supplies for Arizona

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – State Representative Alexander Kolodin today endorsed the *Colorado River Basin Water Security and Infrastructure Act*, introduced by Congressman Andy Biggs, calling it the action on new water supplies that Arizona has needed for years.

The bill authorizes \$19 billion to expand water supply and infrastructure across the Colorado River Basin. Its centerpiece is a \$5 billion matching fund that provides \$2 in federal money for every \$1 in state, tribal, or local funding for projects that create new water—desalination, recycling, storage, and recharge.

The bill also speeds permitting for those projects, including a categorical NEPA exemption and an 180-day deadline for federal permits. That would cut years of delay from Arizona priorities such as Salt River Project's New Bartlett Dam, the SRP–Central Arizona Project interconnect, and delivery of water from the Harquahala, McMullen Valley, and Butler Valley basins through the CAP canal to central Arizona.

"Congressman Biggs' bill rewards states that invest in their own water future, and Arizona is ready," Representative Kolodin said.

Kolodin contrasted the bill with the Governor's record. **"Governor Hobbs has spent four years managing scarcity instead of building supply,"** he said. **"Her Colorado River talks stalled without a deal that enforces the Compact or that requires the Upper Basin to share in cuts. And when the Legislature sent her bills to develop new supplies, including brackish groundwater legislation I helped advance, she vetoed them and dismissed the idea as 'wishful thinking.' Arizona is less prepared today as a result."**

"Congressman Biggs is doing what the Governor should have done years ago: putting real money and real urgency behind new water, and doing it in a way that benefits every Basin state," Kolodin added. **"That is a win-win approach, and it is the one Arizona needs. The affordability and long-term future of our state depend on it."**

Alexander Kolodin is an attorney and Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives serving Legislative District 3, which includes North Scottsdale, Fountain Hills, and Rio Verde in Maricopa County. Follow him on X at @realAlexKolodin.

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