

# YELLOW SHEET REPORT

## ·NEWS NOTES AND GOSSIP·

### **THEY FINALLY #SHUTITDOWN! SORT OF**

Lawmakers in the House today cast aside their partisan differences to support an \$11.8 billion contingency budget and a \$50 million package to cushion the economic impact of COVID-19, before the Legislature adjourned until April 13. Bowers and Fann can pick another day to reconvene, depending on how the coronavirus crisis unfolds in the next few weeks. The House had adjourned on Thursday without voting on the budget deal that Republican and Democrat senators hashed out. Over the weekend, however, Fernandez and Bowers worked out an agreement to ensure Democratic support for the Senate budget. Bowers also whipped support for the deal in his caucus. The speaker then offered a series of



floor amendments to the House budget to mirror the Senate's version. Initially, Democrats offered hostile floor amendments, leading Bowers to accuse Fernandez of going back on her word. On the floor, Fernandez argued she never agreed not to offer amendments. Ultimately, Fernandez said her caucus would no longer offer the Democratic amendments, ensuring a quicker passage of the budget bills. In addition to the \$50 million fund, the aid package includes relaxing eligibility requirements and time limits for TANF assistance and creates leeway for Dept of Economic Security to pay developmental disability care providers who are providing services in alternative ways. Within an hour after the Legislature adjourned, Ducey applauded lawmakers for passing the "skinny budget." "I'm proud of what's happening here. I'll applaud the bipartisan leadership that we've had – Charlene Fernandez, David Bradley, Rusty Bowers and Karen Fann. You've seen what Kathy Hoffman has done regarding schools and what Katie Hobbs has done so we can allow democracy to function. That's how we'll continue to operate in Arizona," he said.

### **YELLOW SHEET REPORT IS DEFINITELY AN 'ESSENTIAL SERVICE'**

Although Ducey said Arizona is not "at this time" ready to implement a stay-at-home order, he issued an executive order today that clarifies which businesses could remain open, if and when that changes ([LINK](#)). Ducey characterized the order as a "proactive, administrative measure" that gives the state one consistent, blanket definition on essential businesses, in order to avoid confusion as to who should close shop. "It's my hope that we stop the spread, protect our economy and mitigate the need for further action," Ducey said. "But this order will allow workers and employers to responsibly plan for what things look like in the weeks ahead." Among businesses considered essential are health care and public health operations, like hospitals personal protective equipment distributors and biotechnology companies; services for the developmentally disabled, fostered and adopted children; crucial government functions like emergency responders, welfare providers and child protection staff; grocery and medicine providers; outdoor recreation, including golf courses; media organizations; as well as several others. Ducey announced the executive order to a noticeably thinner crowd of press and government staff at the state's testing facility. While he wouldn't speculate on a timeline for when life may return to normal, he said the pandemic will create lasting, ever-changing public health and economic challenges that will last for the "days, weeks and months ahead." "Like I said last week, this is something we should think of as a marathon, not a sprint," Ducey said. "We're putting the appropriate restrictions at that time. And we will continue to escalate as necessary."

## **WHO CAN SAY HOW MANY TESTS WE'VE DONE?**

Ducey issued a second executive order today requiring hospitals and testing laboratories to report key metrics that help the state take additional action to combat the virus ([LINK](#)). Specifically, the order requires hospitals to report daily statistics on the capacity of its resources, and requires laboratories to report all results of COVID-19 tests, including the number of people who tested negative. It also requires more detailed tracking of patients, better sharing of information and more coordination of specimen testing. DHS and local health authorities will be able to access confidential patient information, like medical records, in order to better track and treat them and others who may have been exposed. Before this order, private-sector companies were voluntarily reporting results to the state and they were not always displayed publicly. It's important to have as much of this data as possible because it gives Ducey and everyone else a clearer picture of how bad the problem is, where the virus is spreading and helps them decide what to do about it to "flatten the curve" ([YS, 3/16](#)).



## **TEACHING DOESN'T SOUND LIKE SUCH A BAD GIG RIGHT NOW**



Ducey is expected to sign Udall's COVID-19 school closures bill today, which would allow teachers to continue being paid through the shutdown, as well as provide some level of schooling through the end of the school year. When he and Hoffman extended their statewide school closure last week to April 10, Ducey said in their open letter and in a brief video statement that he looked forward to signing the legislation. Udall's , H2910 (public school closures; coronavirus disease) presents a contingency plan to allow schools to pay employees for the first two weeks of the shutdown, from March 16 through

March 29, so long as employees are "committed to being available to work during the employee's normal work hours." For those two weeks of the original closure, schools may not require any employee to use accrued vacation or sick leave for the closure. Because Ducey has already announced closures for at least an additional two weeks, until April 10, at least, the provisions covering an ongoing closure will almost certainly kick in. Those provisions ensure all teachers and staff are paid during the full duration of closure, it cancels all state testing and does not require those days to be made up at the end of the year, so long as schools offer "general education opportunities" through the end of their scheduled school year. Schools must attest by March 30 that they are offering educational opportunities, while ADE and the State Board of Education are charged with determining how that requirement is being met. Schools will also receive their transportation funding based on last year's numbers, and can use its fleet of buses to support students and families however the school sees fit. The bill also cancels the AzMerit test this year, and exempts third-graders from the requirement that they pass the reading portion of that test to graduate. Letter grades would hold steady, and schools would simply keep their 2019 letter grade. Hoffman's spokesman Richie Taylor told our reporter today that the Dept of Education is still working to provide guidance to districts on how to ensure students get the supplies they need.

## **DON'T GO SPENDING IT ALL IN ONE PLACE**

JLBC sent out its monthly fiscal highlights on Friday showing a ho-hum month, but warned things are about to get significantly worse. While February general funds revenues were down about 1.3 percent over last year and \$42 million under forecast, that was due to income tax processing, not COVID-19. With the pandemic in full effect, it's about to get a lot worse, JLBC warned. "The impact of the significant economic disruptions from COVID-19 will begin to appear in the revenue results reported next month, which will reflect March economic conditions," JLBC wrote, noting that sales tax revenue reports lag by an extra month, and those won't



show the hit from COVID-19 until it releases its monthly report in May. Sales taxes were going well, up until now, JLBC noted. Sales tax collections were 10 percent above February of last year and \$18.7 million above forecast. Year to date, collections are up by 8.3 percent and are \$49 million above forecast. The March sales tax figures are expected to be bludgeoned by the COVID-19 pandemic, which will further hamper growth. "Given the upcoming processing of last session's income tax reductions, we had already expected the year-to-date revenue growth rate to decline in future months. The decline in the growth rate will be further accelerated by the economic impact of COVID-19," JLBC noted. The budget gurus said that since the state's revenues "will change considerably in the near future," they plan to report more frequently on the state's revenue and economic conditions. The next update to revenue forecasts will happen at the April 9 Finance Advisory Committee meeting, though it's still unclear if the FAC will hold that meeting in person, or telephonically. "The April 9th forecast will provide some indication of the change in the economy since our January Baseline. Due to the rapidly changing circumstances surrounding COVID-19, however, the updated forecast will not provide definitive answers on the state's financial condition over the next several months," JLBC noted.

## **POLITICAL PERSISTENCE RUNS IN THE FAMILY**

Epstein's sister, Marie Newman, mounted an insurgent progressive campaign and defeated an incumbent congressman in Illinois Dem dominated CD3, all but assuring her a seat in Congress. Dan Lipinski, who has represented the district since 2005, and whose father represented the district for more than two decades before that, is one of the most conservative Democrats in the House – he voted against the Affordable Care Act and consistently votes against abortion rights. In the four-way March 17, 2020, primary, Newman secured just over 47 percent of the vote to Lipinski's nearly 45 percent. Epstein told our reporter that Newman is the youngest in a south Chicago family that tended to talk more about math than politics when they were growing up. "There's my libertarian brother, and I'm in the middle between him and my soon-to-be congresswoman sister, both politically and in age. We run the spectrum," she said. Like Epstein, who ran an unsuccessful 2014 campaign in LD18 before securing victory in 2016, this wasn't Newman first run – she took on Lipinski in 2018 but fell short. On that front, Epstein offered her younger sister some advice. "I think the most important point was, if at first you don't succeed, try, try again, my darling," she said, adding that when you're running a grassroots campaign, it takes time to build a winning team. Epstein said she and her sister are close, but she has no plans to try to join her in Congress. "As much fun as it would be to be sisters in Congress, no, that's not gonna happen... I believe Congressman Stanton is doing a fantastic job," she said.



## **QUALIFYING FOR THE BALLOT WAS HARD BEFORE...**

With the coronavirus not slowing down anytime soon, eight active ballot initiatives or constitutional amendments face the possibility of not being able to collect enough signatures to land on the November ballot. Arizonans for Fair Lending, an initiative that would outlaw auto title loans, was the first effort to die, but before COVID-19 had a crucial impact in the state. It announced on Feb. 3 that it was closing down for lack of financial backing. Now, efforts like Invest in Education, Save Our Schools, Outlaw Dirty Money, and others have to change their approach to collect signatures before the



July 2 deadline. Both education initiatives must collect at least 237,000 signatures before the deadline, but neither has had ample time to collect thus far. Invest in Education has had roughly one month to collect, and AEA President Joe Thomas wouldn't say how many signatures they've collected, but told our reporter they are ahead of schedule. Thomas said they are taking two approaches to collect at this point – sending people home with petition sheets to get family members and close friends to sign and send those back, and a door-to-door approach, while still abiding by the social distancing rules. He said organizers are dropping petition sheets at people's doors for organizers to pick up later. That could be ineffective if Ducey ever decides to issue a "shelter in place" order, though in a press conference today, the governor said the state is "not there yet." Save Our Schools has also started sending petitions to people's homes, and announced in a tweet that organizers are "100% committed to stopping reckless private school voucher expansion & protecting AZ tax dollars." Organizers asked supporters to visit [YesSosAz.com](http://YesSosAz.com) to request a petition packet in the mail "for the fam & friends you're seeing within the confines of safety precautions."

## **IF NOT, THERE'S ALWAYS 2022**



As a constitutional amendment, the bar for Outlaw Dirty Money is much higher than for statutory initiatives like Invest in Ed and Save our Schools. ODM needs to collect 356,467 signatures and, despite its early launch, is facing challenges in doing so. ODM sent out an email asking petition gatherers to turn in their sheets so organizers know where they stand now. Terry Goddard, the campaign's chair, wrote that they already have 270,000 signatures, which is roughly 77 percent of the way to the minimum. Of course, that doesn't leave any cushion. "The challenge is that our volunteer effort will be curtailed by the health care emergency. We do not want our volunteers at risk,"

Goddard wrote, later adding that the campaign hopes people will turn in their signatures within the next seven days. Goddard told our reporter today that ODM actually paused in-person signature gathering last Wednesday. "We are looking at all options going forward," he said, adding that before the state of emergency and other fallout of COVID-19 they were "on track to qualify easily for the ballot." He said in addition to the 270,000 already collected signatures, there are at least 10,000 more that haven't been returned. Outlaw Dirty Money finds itself in a pickle of attempting to follow health guidelines while also trying to listen to potential voters. "We want to abide by the spirit of the governor's executive order and not endanger anyone's safety but also must respect the rights of thousands of signers who want to get this proposal before the voters in November as well as the hard work of thousands of volunteers," Goddard said.

**SO MANY INITIATIVES, SO FEW PUBLIC GATHERINGS**

Of planned 2020 initiatives, only Smart & Safe Arizona says it has already collected enough signatures to get on the ballot. The other initiative efforts include Democracy and Accountability Act, which aims to bar lawmakers from voting on legislation that benefits them financially; Arizonans for Fair Elections, which would provide an overhaul of the state's election laws, making it easier to vote and limit spending from corporations, among other provisions; Stop Surprise Billing and Protect Patients Act, which aims to prevent insurance companies from discriminating against people based on pre-existing medical conditions; and Second Chances, Rehabilitation and Public Safety Act, which would increase public safety and reduce recidivism. Fair Elections has suspended paid signature collecting, but did not provide more information before our deadline, and none of the other campaigns could be reached for comment.

## ·PRESS RELEASES AND NEWS CLIPS·

### Governor Ducey Issues Executive Order To Accelerate Tracking Of COVID-19

PHOENIX — Governor Doug Ducey today issued an executive order implementing an Enhanced Surveillance Advisory that will accelerate tracking of COVID-19 cases and strengthen the ability of the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) to respond to the outbreak. The advisory requires hospitals and testing laboratories to report key metrics that will inform the state's response to COVID-19.

“Protecting public health and ensuring the safety of our communities is job number one for Arizona,” said Governor Ducey. “We are taking proactive action to ensure the public health professionals at the Arizona Department of Health Services have the tools and information they need to combat the spread of COVID-19. Working with healthcare providers and our local partners across the state, this advisory will expand our capability to respond and keep Arizonans safe.”

“My team and I are committed to doing everything we can to fight the spread of COVID-19,” said Dr. Cara Christ, Director of the Arizona Department of Health Services. “The enhanced surveillance for COVID-19 information will improve our awareness of our hospital and surge capacity, allow us to get denominator data on commercial laboratory testing and collect laboratory specimens to do further analysis and sequencing.”

To better prepare for and respond to the spread of COVID-19, the advisory requires hospitals in Arizona to report daily statistics on staff resources, ventilator availability, intensive care unit (ICU) bed availability, inpatient bed availability, personal protective equipment (PPE) supply levels, medical supply levels as well as describe their current triage process.

The advisory also requires laboratories to report the results of all COVID-19 tests or a weekly aggregate number of total COVID-19 tests performed. In addition, it directs enhanced patient tracking, information sharing and coordination of specimen testing. The order follows Governor Ducey's declaration of a Public Health Emergency on March 11.

ADHS and local health authorities will be empowered to access confidential patient information, including medical records, to identify, diagnose, treat and track persons who may have been exposed. To protect the privacy of patients, any identifying information received from the advisory is confidential.

To coordinate additional testing for COVID-19, the advisory will also allow ADHS to designate other laboratories to assist it in testing specimens if necessary and at state expense. If requested by ADHS or local health authorities, public safety agencies may be requested to coordinate transportation of samples to laboratories for testing.

To view the Enhanced Surveillance Advisory, click [HERE](#).

### Update from the Senate Majority Leadership on COVID-19

(State Capitol, Phoenix) – Senate Majority Leadership is proud of its body for coming together, setting politics aside and for prioritizing the health and safety of our Arizonans.

“This is such a unique and unfortunate situation the whole world is in,” said President Karen Fann. “But I am pleased to see that legislators set aside their wants and needs in order to protect the lives of each person in our state and worldwide.”

The Senate and House have done everything in their power to protect Arizona. The budget that was passed includes the funding for K-12 schools, Unemployment Insurance, Economic Assistance to Small Businesses/Organizations, Mortgage Assistance, and many other necessary appropriations.

“I am glad to see our budget reflects how much we care about Arizona and its residents,” said Senator Vince Leach. “This budget is not ideal and does not include everything we wanted, but it does include everything our citizens need in this time of crisis.”

Upon completion of the budget, the Arizona Senate will recess until Monday, April 13, 2020 or to the sound of the gavel. We will keep you updated on any new developments as they arise.

Stay healthy, stay safe, and stay at home.

## House Democrats Statement on Passing Bi-Partisan COVID-19 Crisis Budget

PHOENIX – Democratic Leader Representative Charlene Fernandez released the following statement regarding today’s passage of a pared-down state budget that includes a bi-partisan deal for \$50 million to aid Arizonans with rental and foreclosure assistance, homeless services and shelters, small business and nonprofit assistance and food banks to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

“This crisis is real. It’s here. Arizonans are getting sick, losing jobs and families are hurting. Our state is looking to us for leadership and help. On Thursday there were 44 COVID19 cases. Today there are 234 and two fatalities. It’s likely going to get worse before it gets better.

This budget will help and that’s why we support it. But it will not be enough. We know we will have to do more, that’s the point we made with our amendments to increase unemployment benefits, food aid, stop evictions and foreclosures and prevent price gouging. We were ready to pass this negotiated plan on Thursday. It’s good for Arizona that Republicans and Democrats came together today, but there was no reason for it to take this long. Our caucus has gone from being accused of over-reacting, mocked for calling this a crisis, to being accused of dragging things out by standing up for our community needs and not moving fast enough.

The fact is this pandemic will likely not subside in a few weeks, or even months. The fact is our economy will continue to constrict. And the fact is the lifeline we are trying to throw to Arizona residents will still be needed, likely sooner rather than later.”

## House Republicans Approve Budget and COVID-19 Aid for the Good of All Arizonans

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Speaker Rusty Bowers (R-25) issued the following statement today after House Republicans approved a baseline budget and COVID-19 aid for the good of all Arizonans.

“Today, we approved a bi-partisan, responsible budget that provides certainty and continuity in state operations. Most importantly, it includes \$50 million in immediate proactive assistance for the state’s COVID-19 response efforts.

“This pandemic is potentially the worst public health and economic threat that our state and nation has faced. The House Republican Caucus stands united in supporting individual Arizonans, families, and small businesses, and our votes today send a strong and clear message that we will act for the good of all Arizonans.

“With this important work done, the House stands in adjournment to the sound of the gavel. Members are asked to return home in order to do their part to help flatten the curve of the coronavirus pandemic. At this time, it is our hope to reconvene at the Capitol at the appropriate time to resume the legislative session, taking up consideration of additional budget items and pending legislation.

“During this period, we will continue to closely monitor COVID-19 developments and maintain continual communication with the Governor Ducey’s office, the Arizona Department of Health Services, and others. Should an urgent need arise necessitating further legislative action prior to the conclusion of our planned period of self-isolation, the House stands ready to return.”

## Governor Ducey Expands Access To Unemployment Insurance And Extends Income Tax Deadline

PHOENIX □ — Governor Doug Ducey today announced a forthcoming executive order and issued an administrative action aimed at providing certainty and economic relief to taxpayers affected by COVID-19. The executive order ensures those who are out of work or facing economic hardship because of COVID-19 have access to unemployment benefits. The administrative action issued by the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) extends the income tax filing deadline to July 15, 2020 to mirror the new federal deadline.

“The state of Arizona will continue to take proactive measures to combat the spread of COVID-19 and protect public health,” said Governor Ducey. “These are important steps to get help to Arizonans out of work and struggling to make ends meet because of COVID-19. These are just some steps out of many we will continue to take to support Arizonans in need during this time — and Arizona will get through this together.”

Executive Order Ensuring Individuals Whose Employment Is Affected by COVID-19 Have Access to Unemployment Waives the one-week waiting period after an employee loses a job before they apply for unemployment benefits.

Waives work search requirements for those receiving unemployment benefits.

Adds people who work at a business that has been temporarily closed or has reduced hours because of COVID-19, who have to quarantine because of COVID-19, or who have to care for a family member with COVID-19 to the list of people eligible for unemployment insurance. The order also waives any increase in employer payments to the unemployment insurance fund for businesses whose employees receive benefits under this provision.

Administrative Action Extending Income Tax Deadline to July 15, 2020

Governor Ducey today instructed the ADOR to move the deadline for filing and paying state income taxes from April 15 to July 15, 2020.

This is consistent with Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin’s announcement that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has moved the deadline for 2019 federal tax returns to July 15, 2020 and individual, corporate and fiduciary tax returns.

The new deadline means taxpayers filing state tax returns or submitting payments after the previous April 15 deadline will not be assessed late payment penalties or interest.

## Governor Ducey Announces Medical Protective Equipment Shipment

PHOENIX □ — Today, Governor Doug Ducey announced a shipment of medical supplies for Arizona health care professionals from the Strategic National Stockpile. The shipment includes more than 440,000 personal protective equipment that will be distributed to county health departments to provide to local hospitals and medical professionals as they address the COVID-19 outbreak and treat patients.

Governor Ducey toured the shipment today along with Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) Director Dr. Cara Christ and Department of Emergency and Military Affairs Deputy Director Wendy Smith-Reeve as the supplies were organized and prepared for county distribution.

“Arizona is working to keep our health professionals safe,” said Governor Ducey. “This shipment from the Strategic National Stockpile includes thousands of masks, face shields, surgical gowns, gloves and more — and we are working to get these supplies where they are needed as soon as possible. My sincere thanks to the doctors, nurses, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, first responders and everyone working to protect public health and safety during this outbreak.”

The recent shipment from the Strategic National Stockpile includes:

60,900 N95 masks;

244,000 surgical face masks;

26,208 face shields;

22,200 surgical gowns;

102 coveralls;

And nearly 90,000 sets of gloves.

This weekend’s shipment represents 25 percent of Arizona’s share of the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), which is overseen by the Department of Health and Human Services. ADHS has requested an additional shipment of supplies from the SNS, which is expected to arrive later this month.

For daily Arizona updates, click [HERE](#).

For information on Governor Ducey’s latest actions, click [HERE](#).

## Comment on Today’s Coronavirus Poll of Small Business Owners

*The pathway to recovery runs through Main Street*

**PHOENIX, March 23, 2020**—From Chad Heinrich, NFIB Arizona state director, on this morning’s release of an NFIB poll on the coronavirus’ effect on small-business owners.



“Small business recovery will lead to Arizona’s and America’s recovery. NFIB will continue to lead efforts to inform and engage small business owners on developing stories, the government response, and resources to help them get back on their feet.”

[Click here](#) for NFIB’s national news release on its poll [and here](#) for the poll with usable bar graphs and pie chart.

More news can found at this web story, [Arizona Small Business Central for Coronavirus News and Resources](#). This webpage will be continually updated as new resources become available.

Keep up with the latest on Arizona small-business at [www.nfib.com/arizona](http://www.nfib.com/arizona) or by following NFIB on Twitter @NFIB\_AZ

## DNC Launches Diverse Media Advertising Campaign on the Tenth Anniversary of the Affordable Care Act

*Ads will highlight Trump’s broken health care promises to African-American and Latino voters in key battlegrounds*

Today, the Democratic National Committee (DNC) launched a diverse media advertising campaign in 6 key battlegrounds (AZ, MI, NC, PA, FL, WI), beginning with ads highlighting Republicans’ broken promises on the issue of health care to voters of color on the tenth anniversary of the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

The DNC is beginning this campaign with a significant initial buy and will make an overall six-figure investment in minority-focused media outlets.

“Victory in 2020 will be won in Black and Brown communities throughout the country, and we cannot afford to take a single vote for granted,” said **DNC Chair Tom Perez**. “President Obama, Speaker Pelosi, and Democrats in Congress made access to health care a reality for millions of people, especially in communities of color, and Trump’s agenda has trampled on that progress. In a time where America is facing a pandemic, it is important for voters to remember who has their back when it comes to protecting and expanding access to health care. These investments in diverse media outlets are happening much earlier in the cycle than ever before and we will continue to engage voters where they are on this critical issue, as often as possible.”

The print ads, which will be published in Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin were placed through the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) and will commemorate the passage of the ACA and the benefits it provides, including protections for preexisting conditions.

## McSally Shares Resources for Arizonans in Search of Work

U.S. SENATE – U.S. Senator Martha McSally (R-AZ) released the following statement Saturday morning regarding new job openings across Arizona. For a full list of Arizona employers with immediate openings, visit [arizonaatwork.com](http://arizonaatwork.com).

“Arizonans are feeling the financial strain of the coronavirus outbreak, with several seeing their hours scaled back, their pay reduced, or their job lost entirely,” **McSally said**. “I encourage anyone who is suffering financially amid this crisis to check out this resource. Meanwhile, I’ll continue to work around the clock in Washington to send swift relief to Arizona’s workers and families so they can make ends meet while they stay at home to help slow the spread of the virus.”

## Western Independence Project Calls On Martha McSally to Break With McConnell, Oppose Coronavirus Response Bills That Fail to Put Arizona Families First

**Phoenix, AZ** – Today, Western Independence Project called on Sen. Martha McSally to be the independent representative Arizona needs and to break with Mitch McConnell by voting against any coronavirus response packages that fail to put Arizona families and workers first.

Yesterday, despite claiming to provide Arizonans with the support they desperately need, McSally voted for a flawed, partisan bill that provides American workers with few guarantees they won't be laid off, but provides a \$500 billion slush fund for Mitch McConnell and Martha McSally to use to bail out their special interest corporate allies. McSally must now call on McConnell and her colleagues to support a bill that genuinely helps the middle class and the thousands of Arizonans suffering layoffs.

"Martha McSally once again is putting her political benefactor, Mitch McConnell, ahead of regular Arizonans. The Senate coronavirus package she supported would leave hundreds of thousands of workers and middle class Arizonans out in the cold, providing totally inadequate relief for the hospitals, families and small businesses facing the dire consequences of this pandemic," **said WIP Co-Chair Cesar Chavez.**

**WIP Co-Chair Rebecca Rios added,** "Today, the Arizona State Legislature is poised to pass a response package, but alone, it will not be enough. Our communities are struggling. We need Congress to step in to provide tests, medical supplies and funding, and financial help that puts Arizonans and working families first. Martha McSally needs to start telling the truth about her record, stop voting in lockstep with Mitch McConnell for handouts to big corporations and deliver for us.

## Stanton Shares Spanish Resource Guide for School Meals

PHOENIX—Rep. Greg Stanton today shared an online resource in Spanish listing all Maricopa County school district meal services during closures. The resource is the first of its kind to be made available in Spanish since Valley schools began closing to support COVID-19 prevention efforts.

The resource is available online here: <https://stanton.house.gov/media/blog-posts/gu-de-programas-de-las-comidas-escolares-en-el-condado-de-maricopa>

"Every day, Arizona schools serve hundreds of thousands of thousands of breakfasts and lunches to students for free or at a reduced cost—and our school districts have stepped up to ensure that those students can continue to receive meals during this time," said Stanton. "We have many Spanish-speaking families in our state, and I want to make sure students and families have resources in the language they feel most comfortable with."

Just last week, Fox 10 Phoenix reported that Spanish-language resources on coronavirus has fallen short—with resources either completely unavailable in Spanish or delayed. [[Source](#)]

In addition to providing the school meal resource, Stanton distributed a [survey](#) last week to learn more about what information Arizonans are looking for regarding COVID-19. The survey is also collecting information about whether residents prefer to receive updates in Spanish, which will better allow his office to get Spanish-language resources to those households.

Stanton's office plans to keep the list of school meal providers updated as information changes. He has also made available local resources, recommendation from the Centers for Disease Control and updates on Congress's response efforts at [stanton.house.gov/coronavirus](https://stanton.house.gov/coronavirus).

“QUOTE  
OF THE DAY”

“As much fun as it would be to be sisters in Congress, no, that’s not gonna happen.”

- *Epstein, on whether she’ll join her sister, Marie Newman, in Congress*