

YELLOW SHEET REPORT

·NEWS NOTES AND GOSSIP·

OUR MONEY IS ON A JULY 4 SPECIAL SESSION ON FREEDOM

The Ninth Floor refuses to commit to calling a special session, saying only that the office will continue to work with lawmakers, but no decision has been made about when, or if, Ducey will call lawmakers back. “It was a positive, productive conversation with lawmakers from both parties. They discussed various issues,” Ducey spokesman Patrick Ptak told our reporter, referencing the governor’s meeting with six legislators on Friday ([LINK](#)). Ptak said the office continues to discuss the budget and additional legislative action, but also “demonstrations and protests.” Still, Ptak gave some hint of the Ninth Floor’s thinking, saying that until lawmakers have a solid proposal and the votes to pass it, a special session is a moot point. The cardinal rule of calling special sessions, he said, is to “know exactly what you want to do, and have the votes lined up ahead of time.” “That will be our approach as we work with both parties,” he said.



HEY, WHO LET BOWIE IN THERE?

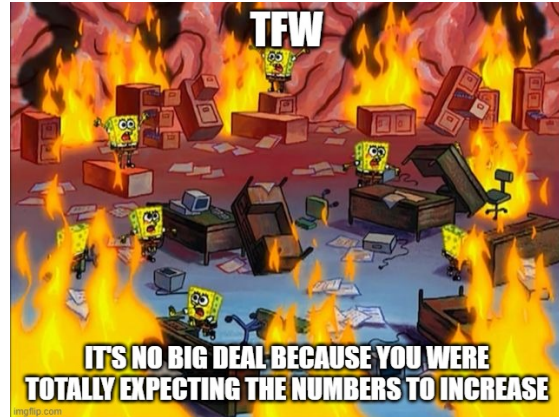


Bowie, the token Democrat at Ducey’s meeting, told our reporter the governor seems uninterested in extending COVID-19 relief or calling a special session anytime soon. Bowie specifically talked about wanting to extend eviction protections for small businesses that expired May 31. “It didn’t seem like the Governor’s Office was interested in extending those protections,” he said. “It was very clear from his overall tone that he wants to reopen the economy.” Bowie said he also commented on Arizona’s second-lowest-in-the-nation unemployment benefit of \$240 per week, and said the state should prepare to increase it as the additional federal benefit of \$600 is set to expire July 31. No one else in the room

responded to the unemployment issue, he said. Bowie said he asked Ducey point-blank when he wanted lawmakers to return for a special session and received no firm answer. “The impression that I got was that it’s probably not going to be anytime soon,” he said. “I’d be surprised if we go back before the end of the month.” That delay mainly seems to be due to the business liability bill Leach is working on, as Republicans have not yet agreed on language. Bowie said he reiterated that Democrats want to be involved in drafting the bill, and that members of his caucus are willing to support it if it contains some of the worker protections they want. Republicans also need Democratic votes to pass any measure with an emergency clause. “I would think they would want to have us at the table, given all the uncertainty and the in-fighting that’s going on in the Republican caucus,” Bowie said.

DON'T PANIC – JUST FULLY ACTIVATE YOUR EMERGENCY PLANS

Arizona's COVID-19 numbers continue to climb and there doesn't appear to be any signs of them slowing down soon. Last week, Ducey and Dept of Health Services Director Cara Christ said they were expecting numbers to increase after Ducey lifted the stay-at-home order on May 15 and the state began to phase into reopening. The increase has been huge. Over the span of a week, the state saw an increase of nearly 7,000 new cases, ICU beds at the state's largest hospital network are nearing capacity ([LINK](#)), and four single days reported more than 1,000 new cases. Rt.live, a site that tracks the measurement of the rate at which the virus is spreading, now ranks Arizona as the fifth highest spread behind only South Carolina, Utah, Washington and Michigan ([LINK](#)) and *ProPublica* has Arizona tied with Massachusetts at the highest rate of positive tests per 100,000 people, at 16 positive cases ([LINK](#)). Christ sent a letter to hospitals today urging them to "fully activate" their emergency plans ([LINK](#)). Ducey spokesman Patrick Ptak would not say today if Arizona will reach Phase Two soon or if there will be another stay-at-home order, only saying they continue to track the data. "We've followed the CDC gating criteria and the guidance of public health experts to this point where we see regular briefings on the latest," he told our reporter. Ducey previously said he will not issue another order, but Ptak would not say whether he still holds that stance ([YS, 5/28](#)).



IF ONLY THE PRIMARY COULD GO ON UNTIL NOVEMBER

Barto and Carter each launched expansive websites today detailing dozens of areas where they argue their opponent failed the voters of LD15. Barto's website, TruthAboutCarter.com, went live this morning ([LINK](#)). Visitors to the homepage see the text "Is Heather Carter a conservative?" superimposed on a smiling picture of Carter, followed by a stark black-and-white sentence: "Her record says she's not." A subsequent slideshow and list of topics details Carter's previous votes on abortion-related bills, Medicaid expansion, immigration, education and election legislation. It also describes Carter as a "known moderate" and "ally of progressive Democrats." Barto's team went out of its way to avoid naming Carter's frequent Republican allies, Brophy McGee and Boyer, cutting their names out of quotes from news clips and in one instance replacing Boyer's name with "[a Republican colleague]" in a quote from a *Yellow Sheet* item about the two conference calling our reporter about adjourning *sine die* ([YS, 4/23](#)). Carter, who hinted a couple weeks ago that she had her own round of attacks coming ([YS, 5/28](#)), put up her own website, VetoBarto.com, early this afternoon ([LINK](#)). "I've always ran positive campaigns in the past, unfortunately this year, my opponent is going to try to distort and mislead you on my record because she's desperate," Carter texted our reporter along with a link to the site. Carter's site brands Barto "Negative Nancy" and a "career politician." It slams Barto for her support of anti-vax bills, calls her the "unhealthiest health chair" and accuses her of defending murderers with her H2735 (guilty except insane; court jurisdiction), and killing bills meant to protect children from sex offenders. In a section about how Barto "loves her government perks," the site notes she supported the 2019 per diem increase Ducey vetoed, and draws on our reporting from 2013 that she took a Center for Arizona Policy-funded trip to Laguna Beach ([LINK](#)). Carter also wades into the National Popular Vote dispute that until now has been confined to niche Republican blogs ([YS, 6/3](#)). In a page claiming Barto is "doing her part to elect Democrats," Carter notes Barto's support for 2016's S1218 (national popular vote; interstate agreement). "We know of another Nancy who would like this" over a photo of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

REMOVING IT WOULD BE A MONUMENTAL STEP

Hobbs wants the Confederate monument removed from the Capitol’s Wesley Bolin Plaza, but under her proposal, it wouldn’t be permanently gone. She wrote a letter to Andy Tobin, Dept of Administration director, requesting the monument be placed in the Capitol Museum, which she oversees. Hobbs cited Tobin’s power under ARS 41-1363 to “relocate” monuments. “The department of administration may relocate monuments or memorials that are located in the governmental mall,” the statute reads. Hobbs wrote that removing it “isn’t a choice to erase our history, it’s a choice to embrace our future.” This is far from the first time someone has requested to have the monument removed, most notably Bolding called on Ducey in 2015 and again in 2017 to have it removed, though Ducey cannot make that decision alone. After the 2017 protests in Charlottesville, Virginia, several states attempted to remove Confederate statues, including Arizona, but this one remains. Someone even dressed it up as a “participation award” with a banner that read, “You lost, get over it,” ([LINK](#)). A spokeswoman for the Dept of Administration said the office will look into the issue, but would not specify whether the monument will be relocated. “We received the letter from the Secretary of State. We respect her position as an elected official and her position on this issue. We will look into the issue and follow up accordingly,” Megan Rose told our reporter. Ducey’s spokesman told our reporter the Ninth Floor will work with Tobin’s department, but wouldn’t commit to relocating the monument. “We want to have a full understanding about it,” spokesman Patrick Ptak said. “There’s a reason that the Secretary wrote this to the Department of Administration ... and we are going to coordinate with them on the next steps.”



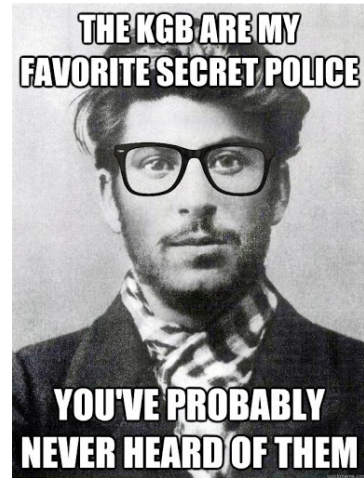
PHOENIX PD ISN’T EXACTLY A NEUTRAL ARBITER



A trio of black Democratic officials sent a letter last week to US Attorney General Bill Barr requesting his office take the reins in an investigation into the fatal shooting of Phoenix resident Dion Johnson by state troopers. The letter writers – Bolding, Peten and Arizona Corporation Commissioner Sandra Kennedy – argued that allowing the Phoenix Police Department to investigate the shooting is unlikely to result in an unbiased, objective, transparent investigation, as PPD is itself one of the most violent police departments in the country. A trooper with the Department of Public Safety shot Johnson, 28, on May 25 – the same day that police in Minneapolis killed George Floyd. Much remains unknown about Johnson’s killing. The agency has only said a state trooper found Johnson sleeping in his car alongside the Loop 101 freeway, a struggle ensued and the trooper shot the unarmed Johnson. Reporters eventually located footage from an Arizona Department of Transportation camera showing two troopers standing over Johnson, apparently still alive, as an ambulance idled. Following protocol, DPS Director Heston Silbert asked an outside agency to conduct an investigation of the officer-involved shooting: the Phoenix Police Department. However, Bolding, Peten and Kennedy write that PPD’s own troubling history of police violence – the department had 44 officer-involved shootings in 2018, though the number dropped precipitously the next year – means that a fair investigation is unlikely. “It is our hope that through concurrent investigations all facts will come out, justice will truly be served because as of right now there’s only one account of what happened that morning,” Bolding said at a press conference with Johnson’s family and attorney last week.

NO BODY CAMERA, NO NAME, NO POLICE REPORT

Johnson’s death, compounded with the deaths of George Floyd and other black Americans at the hands of police, have fueled almost a dozen consecutive days of protests throughout Arizona, and Johnson’s family has been exasperated by the lack of information in the case. The trooper who shot Johnson (DPS has so far refused to name the trooper) was apparently not equipped with a body camera. Protestors, Johnson’s family and attorney and activists want to know exactly what happened that day. They want a police report, an accounting of why Johnson was shot, why he did not receive immediate medical attention and the names of the troopers involved. So far, they’ve received no answers. “Because of the current distrust between communities of color and local law enforcement in Arizona over issues of police brutality and racial profiling, and because of the potential civil rights implications of this incident, we respectfully request that the Department of Justice step in to oversee this investigation,” the letter concludes. “We make this request in consultation with Mr. Johnson’s family, and in our capacities as elected officials – Arizona’s only African American statewide elected official, and two of Arizona’s three African American state legislators.”



RUSSELL’S BUDDIES ON THE LEFT



Randy Parraz, who spearheaded the effort to recall former Senate President Russell Pearce, is writing a book about the recall – and he’s naming Democrats who discouraged him from trying to take Pearce out. Parraz, who formed Citizens for a Better Arizona, the committee that opposed Pearce and became a mainstay of political immigration activism in the early 2010s, told our reporter he’s about three-quarters done writing the book, which he said will explain how they were able to pull off the first-ever recall of a sitting Senate president. “How do you in that situation put together a strategy that can go on the offensive at a time when everyone was playing defense in politics,” he said, noting that the effort was only successful because Republicans, mainly moderate Mormons, joined in. The first hurdle was clearing the field of Democrats to ensure Pearce had a one-on-one fight with another LDS Republican in Jerry Lewis. That meant talking

former lawmaker Andrew Sherwood (who had challenged Pearce in the previous election and would go on to win a House seat in 2012 from Tempe after redistricting) out of the recall race. “I had to intervene and talk him out of it. Even though I threatened him, I had no power over him,” he said. Democratic leaders in the state back then were so used to playing defense that they never thought his offensive could work. They tried to dissuade Parraz and his group from taking the fight to Pearce, saying they didn’t want to upset one of the most powerful politicians in the state, Parraz said. “I got calls from Kyrsten Sinema trying to tell me I can’t do this, calls from the state Democratic Party. I’ll tell the story in the book, that’s kinda why I want to write the book,” he said. (Sinema caught flack over the years for her friendship with the anti-immigration proselytizer ([LINK](#).) “She was against the recall because she was all about her makeover... All sorts of people thought it was a bad idea – Chad Campbell – all the leadership were like, ‘Are you kidding me? Why would you do this? You’re gonna lose and when you lose, you’re going to have Russell Pearce emboldened and coming after us.’ I was like, he’s coming after you now,” he said.

THE ALTERNATE UNIVERSE WE COULD BE LIVING IN

Parraz said that recall, while often written off as a historical anomaly, had a profound impact on Arizona's politics. "There was only one vote to determine whether Steve Pierce or Andy Biggs became president. And Steve, to his word, put every anti-immigration piece of legislation in his drawer and never let it see the light of day. And since then we haven't had one piece of anti-immigration piece of legislation," he said. And he pointed to Arizona's 2013 Medicaid expansion, which helped more than 700,000 Arizonans get healthcare, saying that would have never been possible if Pearce was still Senate president. He noted that Pearce was dead-set on forcing votes on his post SB1070 immigration bills to put moderates on record. "He was on a mission... He was going to turn public schools and emergency rooms into ICE. All that would have happened under his watch if we had not been successful, because that's where he was going, it would have just taken one more election cycle to get his friends in there. He had just a few moderates who weren't going his way," he said.



CORRECTION: THAT ONE IS ON THE PAYSON PAPER

An item Friday about Biggs, former Congressman Matt Salmon and Supreme Court Justice Bill Montgomery supposedly going after Wendy Rogers was based an incorrect *Payson Roundup* article. "Not true," Biggs told our reporter. A colleague of Salmon said the former congressman, too, did not sign such a letter. When asked about it, the *Roundup* told *Yellow Sheet Report* it was a "mistake." "Article was [posted] on the web prematurely," the *Roundup* reporter said. We have since taken the item down.

·PRESS RELEASES AND NEWS CLIPS·

Governor Ducey Takes Action On All Remaining Bills

PHOENIX — Governor Ducey today took action on all remaining legislation on his desk, signing a total of 32 bills. The bills include legislation to expand the Arizona Teachers Academy, increase accountability at boards and commissions, enhance suicide prevention training, and improve administration of Arizona's 529 College Savings Program.

In total, the Governor signed 90 bills during the Second Regular Session of the Fifty-Fourth Legislature, an all-time low. There were no vetoes.

"Arizona once again showed this year how to put politics aside and come together when it matters most," said Governor Ducey. "Facing unprecedented public health and economic challenges due to COVID-19, lawmakers prioritized passing a fiscally responsible budget, ensuring funding for our public health response, and expanding assistance to those in need. I'm grateful to all members of the legislature for putting public health and safety first this session."

Key bills signed into law today include:

S.B. 1528 family college savings program; treasurer (Leach)

S.B. 1492 Arizona teachers academy; program pathways (Boyer)

S.B. 1445 suicide prevention training; school employees (Bowie)

S.B. 1274 professional regulatory boards; composition (Ugenti-Rita)

S.B. 1528

S.B. 1528, introduced by Senator Vince Leach, transfers responsibility for the 529 Family College Savings Program from its current commission to the State Treasurer, improvising oversight and administration of the program, and expands the program to cover expenses related to apprenticeships. A 529 plan is a tax-advantaged savings plan designed to encourage saving for future education costs and is authorized by Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code.

S.B. 1492

Sponsored by Senator Paul Boyer, S.B. 1492 expands the Arizona Teachers Academy and allows more students who commit to teaching in an Arizona public school to graduate from college debt-free. Specifically, the bill:

Expands participation by allowing college students pursuing all majors to enter the program.

Expands Teachers Academy slots to current teachers teaching in "dual enrollment" courses in high school.

Allows graduates of the Teachers Academy to teach at schools that serve primarily public school students. Currently, a school such as the Foundation for Blind Children, which transports children in from district schools across the valley, is barred from receiving teachers through the Teachers Academy. This reform changes that.

S.B. 1445

S.B. 1445, introduced by Senator Sean Bowie, requires suicide awareness and prevention training programs for school counselors and social workers.

S.B. 1274

Sponsored by Senator Michelle Ugenti-Rita, S.B. 1274 requires that regulatory boards and commissions transition to having public members as majority membership. This change will ensure that industry experts remain on the board, but that unbiased public members have more influence on the outcome of board decisions.

Governor Doug Ducey today signed into law the following 32 bills:

S.B. 1012 executive session; school safety plans (Borrelli)

S.B. 1021 department of revenue; electronic signatures (Ugenti-Rita)

S.B. 1040 insurers; notices methods of deliver (Livingston)

S.B. 1041 travel insurance (Livingston)

S.B. 1042 executive sessions; security plans (Borelli)

S.B. 1061 schools; parental rights; postings (Allen, S.)

S.B. 1062 insurance transactions; discrimination; exemptions (Livingston)

S.B. 1083 agriculture department; livestock loss board (Allen S.)

S.B. 1090 insurance adjusters; claims certificate (Livingston)

S.B. 1091 insurance producer licensing; surrender; application (Livingston)

S.B. 1096 property management records; residential rentals (Pace)

S.B. 1099 tax deed land sales; proceeds (Mesnard)

S.B. 1121 model city tax code; procedure (Leach)

S.B. 1131 certified public accountants (Gray)
S.B. 1210 assisted living; caregivers; training (Pace)
S.B. 1236 adult adoption; stepchildren (Gowan)
S.B. 1274 professional regulatory boards; composition (Ugenti-Rita)
S.B. 1292 financial literacy; state treasurer; fund (Allen, S.)
S.B. 1303 annexation of territory; requirements (Pratt)
S.B. 1305 personal delivery devices (Livingston)
S.B. 1354 public retirement systems; prefunding plan (Livingston)
S.B. 1397 insurance; preexisting condition exclusions; prohibition (Mesnard)
S.B. 1441 protection orders; modification; residence possession (Farnsworth, E.)
S.B. 1445 suicide prevention training; school employees (Bowie)
S.B. 1446 student identification cards; suicide employees (Bowie)
S.B. 1460 electric cooperatives; broadband service (Borrelli)
S.B. 1492 Arizona teachers academy; program pathways (Boyer)
S.B. 1504 fingerprinting; vital records; child care (Brophy-McGee)
S.B. 1510 public contracts; payment methods (Livingston)
S.B. 1528 family college savings program; treasurer (Leach)
S.B. 1555 support order; dishonest payment; lien (Farnsworth, E.)
S.B. 1557 annuity transactions; requirements (Livingston)

Board Allocates \$399 Million for COVID-19 Response and Recovery

Maricopa County is injecting nearly \$400 million into the local economy to help combat COVID-19. With today's unanimous vote by the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, there's now a clearer picture of how individuals, families, businesses, and health care professionals will benefit from those federal CARES Act dollars.

"Our first job is to protect community health and safety. That's why the bulk of our spending is focused on what we can do to address the immediate health emergency, as well as what we can do to be prepared for whatever happens next during this pandemic," said Board of Supervisors Chairman Clint Hickman, District 4. "I appreciate the work of the entire Maricopa County team as we look to wisely use these funds to attack the spread of the virus and assist those facing financial hardship."

Maricopa County received \$399 million from the U.S. Treasury as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). The purpose of this money is to cover expenditures related to the public health emergency that were not already included in fiscal year 2020 budget. Under the plan approved today by the Board, CARES Act funds will be distributed as follows:

- Health emergency response: \$93 million
- Individuals and families: \$37.5 million
- Small businesses: \$23 million
- County services: \$77.5 million
- Future needs: \$175 million

HEALTH EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The County plans to spend \$93 million to support the ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. \$25 million is allocated for testing services; \$15 million for enhanced contact tracing and disease investigation; \$10 million for personal protective equipment for health care workers; \$5 million to support for long-term care facilities; and \$1 million for surge capacity at the Office of the Medical Examiner.

"Our public health experts have told us what they need to combat COVID-19 in our community and this Board has responded," said Vice Chairman Jack Sellers, District 1. "We know that government can't solve this crisis alone, but I am optimistic these funds will help our families and communities come back stronger."

"We want to be a government that optimizes its resources, and that's exactly what we are doing with our share of CARES Act funding," said Supervisor Steve Chucri, District 2. "We are targeting money where it's needed most so that front line health care workers, those who are at greater risk for serious illness due to COVID-19, and those who lack the resources to adapt to economic instability are getting needed support."

INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

The Maricopa County Human Services Department administers several programs which provide assistance to people who are struggling to make ends meet. With the uncertain economic environment, the demand for those services is greater. To address that need, the Board has allocated \$30 million in CARES Act funding to bolster existing Human Services programs which help people pay their bills and stay in their homes.

“Our public health professionals are doing incredible work to combat the disease, but we know this is also a financial emergency for many people in our community,” said Supervisor Bill Gates, District 3. “I am grateful that we don’t have to make government bigger to make a difference. Instead, we can use federal dollars to improve existing county services, like our rental and utility assistance programs.”

There has been an overwhelming interest in rental assistance and eviction protection since the start of the pandemic. Human Services will use some CARES Act funding to enhance a program aimed at helping more people stay in their homes. The spending plan also includes \$10 million to assist the region’s growing homeless population. “People who need help, need it now. They don’t want to feel like they’re getting swallowed up and lost in the system, or worse, forgotten entirely” said Supervisor Steve Gallardo, District 5. “I support whatever we can do to help those who need it most, be it seniors, kids, or our homeless population.”

Another \$7.5 million in federal grants—separate from the \$400 million allotment the County received directly—will go toward early education, senior services, employment assistance, emergency food, and other community services.

SMALL BUSINESSES

In normal times, Maricopa County helps to support economic growth in the region through balanced regulatory policies, not through direct investment in local businesses. With the unprecedented nature of this pandemic, county leaders felt it was necessary to direct some CARES Act funding to the business community. While the details are still being worked out, the plan approved by the Board allocates \$23 million toward a grant program that would support small businesses and non-profit organizations that can demonstrate financial hardship because of COVID-19. Because the cities of Phoenix and Mesa also received significant CARES Act funding, businesses and non-profits in those cities would not be eligible to apply.

COUNTY SERVICES

Maricopa County has continued to provide necessary public services during the pandemic, but the virus has changed the way people interact with the County. More people are doing business online; those who visit in-person want to make sure they are safe. To address these issues, the Board allocated \$41.5 million for enhancements to resident services including additional handwashing stations and touchless pay kiosks at parks, physical safety upgrades at other county locations, and expanded online services including more options for getting documents and paying bills. County leadership has also made employee safety a priority through the pandemic. The Board is allocating \$36 million in CARES Act funding to support the county workforce through increased remote working capability and additional leave options to support individuals and families.

FUTURE NEEDS

Maricopa County has a long history of conservative fiscal planning. In deciding how to spend CARES Act funding, leadership agreed that it would not be wise to immediately spend all CARES Act dollars. Instead, the Board chose to set \$175 million aside for the unexpected, like a possible second wave of the virus. Having the money available will allow the County to respond more quickly to needs as they arise.

Earlier this spring, the Board of Supervisors approved guidelines to evaluate CARES Act spending requests from departments. Under those guidelines, the County Manager approves smaller spending requests, while larger spends go before the Board of Supervisors for a public vote. CARES Act funding can only be used on expenses incurred between March 1 and December 30, 2020.

Mark Kelly Statement on Rising COVID-19 Cases in Yuma County and Across Arizona

As Arizona experiences an [increase](#) in COVID-19 cases, especially in [Yuma County](#), Mark Kelly released the following statement:

“The recent rise in COVID-19 cases in Yuma County, and across the state, shows that we are not through this pandemic and need to continue following CDC guidelines-- including washing our hands frequently, wearing masks and social distancing when possible. I’ve spoken with leaders in Yuma County who are working to keep their communities safe while taking on the additional responsibility of educating the public and expanding

testing.” said Mark Kelly. **“We need to have their backs, which means direct aid and support and a plan based on science, data and facts to stop the spread of this virus.”**

Kelly has [previously](#) called on Congress to provide direct relief for local governments battling COVID-19, and was joined by Somerton Mayor Gerardo Anaya last week for a discussion about the importance of federal relief for cities and towns in the state. During the conversation, Mayor Anaya [talked](#) about the surge in cases seen across Yuma County and the work his office is doing to educate the public.

McSally Introduces Bill to Ensure Patient Access to Cutting-Edge Medical Treatments

U.S. SENATE – U.S. Senator Martha McSally (R-AZ) introduced [legislation](#) on Monday to secure patient access to FDA-cleared breakthrough medical treatments and technology by providing temporary coverage under Medicare. “Each year, American innovation results in breakthrough medical technology that saves lives and improves quality of life,” **McSally said.** “Unfortunately, it can take up to three years after FDA approval for these breakthrough technologies to be approved by Medicare for seniors. My bill fixes that by allowing seniors to get equal access to new medical technologies right away.”

You can read the bill text [HERE](#).

Background:

- Despite being approved through the FDA’s breakthrough pathway process, Medicare currently does not automatically cover the latest advances in medical technology.
- It currently takes up to three years for Medicare to make coverage determinations for FDA-approved products, which means vital, life-saving treatments could be delayed for millions of seniors.
- The Ensuring Patient Access to Critical Breakthrough Products Act will bridge this gap by requiring Medicare to temporarily cover these innovative products, particularly emerging 21st century medical devices, approved through the FDA’s breakthrough pathway over a three-year period.
- Once this timeframe is up, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) must make a permanent coverage determination.
- For a medical product to earn the FDA’s “breakthrough” designation it must meet the following criteria:
 - provide more effective treatment or diagnosis of life-threatening or irreversibly debilitating diseases or conditions;
 - has no approved alternatives;
 - offers significant advantages over existing approved alternatives; or
 - availability is in the best interest of patients.

The bill also provides temporary coverage for certain breakthrough devices that did not exist or were not contemplated when Medicare was first created and do not have a Medicare benefit category.

Western Independence Project Launches Newest Ads Calling on Martha McSally to Break with Mitch McConnell and Start Fighting for Arizona

Phoenix, AZ —Today, the Western Independence Project is unveiling two new digital ads as a part of its ongoing campaign. These ads highlight Martha McSally’s failure to denounce Mitch McConnell’s disastrous plan to force states into bankruptcy and her repeated failures to support fellow veterans.

Our ad “Local” can be seen [HERE](#).

Our ad “Leadership” can be seen [HERE](#).

Regardless of party affiliation, Arizonans have always demanded independent leaders. From Sinema to Goldwater, our representatives in Washington have never been afraid to buck leadership. But instead of following their example Martha McSally is following Mitch McConnell, and is failing Arizonans and fellow veterans.

“Martha McSally knows full well the dangers of forcing our states and towns into bankruptcy. First responders and teachers could all lose their jobs and be prevented from serving their cities and towns. The fact that she refuses to denounce McConnell’s disastrous plan and rush Arizona’s cities and towns the resources they need to weather this

crisis, proves she cares more about being loyal to McConnell than about regular Arizonans” said WIP Spokesperson **Joe Wolf**.

Wolf added “Our latest ads feature Arizona veterans who know from experience what it means to independently serve their state and their country, and in particular feel that her continued lack of independence has failed them. McSally should be a voice for our veterans, but without fail, she refuses to break from Mitch McConnell.

“QUOTE OF THE DAY”

“I got calls from Kyrsten Sinema trying to tell me I can’t do this, calls from the state Democratic Party. I’ll tell the story in the book, that’s kinda why I want to write the book.”

- Randy Parraz, who spearheaded the recall effort against former Senate President Russell Pearce, on the opposition he faced