

YELLOW SHEET REPORT

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Friday, September 30, 2022

·NEWS NOTES AND GOSSIP·

WHO PAID FOR THE STAMPS?

Yesterday, the *Yellow Sheet* reported that Arizona Corporation Commissioner Jim O'Connor was circulating a flyer for an event where he will appear alongside a slew of individuals known for peddling election misinformation. The flyer publicizing the event was sent out earlier this week on an envelope stamped with the Corporation Commission letterhead, suggesting at



least some state resources were used to promote the event, which will feature a number of election deniers, including Borrelli and Jovan Pulitzer ([YS, 9/29](#)). O'Connor was the first speaker listed. Federal and state laws prohibit the use of public resources for partisan political activities, but the precise definition of public resources and political activities is a subject of debate. In a 2015 opinion issued by Brnovich, he argued for a narrow interpretation of the state statute, finding that a paid government employee's time would be a public resource, but an official title isn't itself a public resource ([LINK](#)). And earlier this year, an attorney for the state Senate sent staffer Talonya Adams two letters demanding she stop tweeting criticisms of Hobbs while she was on the clock, citing the same law barring the use of public resources to influence an election ([YS, 5/16](#)). Roy Herrera, a Democratic attorney, said that simply using official titles – whether in the form of an email or an envelope with official letterhead – could be seen as use of public resources. “There are ways to violate the prohibition that don't necessarily mean that there needs to have been a lot of actual public resource monies, but instead it's using official channels, or official means,” he said.

WHERE'S DUCEY?

As reports circulate that the campaign is struggling to raise money, Republican gubernatorial candidate Kari Lake is holding a pricey fundraiser tonight in the Biltmore neighborhood, according to a flyer sent to our reporter. Admission to the reception starts at \$1,000 per person or \$5,000 per couple for “co-hosts” and \$10,000 per couple for “co-chairs.” Arizona's entire Republican congressional delegation appears on the flyer as “honorary co-chairs” along with Arizona Corporation Commissioner Justin Olson and Pinal County Sheriff Mark Lamb. Outside of Olson, Republican statewide elected officials – including Ducey, Yee and Brnovich – are noticeably absent from the list. The flyer also includes 21 co-chairs and 32 co-hosts, including Phoenix City Councilman Sal DiCiccio, Goodyear City Councilman Patrick Bray, Phoenix City Council candidate Sam Stone, Free Enterprise Club President Scot Mussi, OH Predictive Partner Scott Harkey, Arizona Rock Products Assn Executive Director Steve Trussell and “Rich Dad Poor Dad” author Robert Kiyosaki.

WHO'S DODGING WHOM?



Democratic CD6 candidate Kirsten Engel attacked her Republican opponent Juan Ciscomani today for ducking out of their only scheduled debate, but his campaign made the same accusation in response. A press release from Engel accused Ciscomani of abruptly backing out of an *Arizona Public Media* debate scheduled for Oct. 4. “By dodging this debate, Juan Ciscomani is depriving voters of the opportunity to hear where he stands on crucial issues. My question for Ciscomani is simple – what are you afraid of?” Engel asked in a press release today. “We learned from people familiar with the matter that the debate was canceled because Ciscomani’s campaign did not respond to outreach from *AZPM* in time for it to move forward as planned,”

Engel’s campaign manager Sophia Brown said in an email. But Ciscomani’s campaign consultant Daniel Scarpinato said *AZPM* – not the Ciscomani campaign – cancelled the debate. “They’re not holding the debate, but we would welcome doing one,” Scarpinato said. *AZPM* did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Scarpinato then called Engel out for no-showing at a debate with Ciscomani last month. *Casa Grande Dispatch* co-publisher Donovan Kramer Jr. confirmed that Engel did not show up for a scheduled debate that the campaign previously committed to attend. Brown denied that and wrote, “The Engel for Congress campaign didn’t confirm we would be able to participate in this event.” Kramer interviewed Ciscomani one-on-one instead. Ciscomani was the only Republican who did not appear in the district’s primary debate on *PBS* ([LINK](#)), and he did not respond to an invitation to debate Engel on *PBS* ([LINK](#)). Engel spoke one on one with moderator *PBS* moderator Ted Simons in August when Ciscomani did not attend. Scarpinato argued that there wasn’t much point debating in Phoenix, because it’s outside of CD6. “She’s so interested in a debate in a city and a media market, but not actually in the place where she’s running. I think it’s kind of bizarre,” he said. All *PBS* debates are also streamed online.

WELL, THAT CLEARS THINGS UP

In the press release this morning, Engel suggested that Ciscomani is refusing to debate because he holds “extreme” views on abortion. Ciscomani is pro-life. He displays his abortion views prominently on his campaign website and posts about the topic on social media ([LINK](#), [LINK](#)). In a recent interview with Curt Prendergast of the *Arizona Daily Star* ([LINK](#)), Ciscomani said, “I’m also on record as [women] have to make these choices about their health to be able to offer the right exceptions for the terrible act of rape, or incest, or definitely the life of the mother. These are all exceptions that I’ve been on record as supporting.” Engel chastised Ciscomani for “running away” from a voter who asked him about his abortion views. A video posted on Twitter on Wednesday shows Ciscomani listening to a voter ask him a question about his abortion views, then walking away with his team members without answering ([LINK](#)). Engel accused Ciscomani of supporting Arizona’s territorial-era near-full abortion ban. But Scarpinato said that Ciscomani doesn’t support the pre-statehood ban *or* the 15-week ban passed by legislators this year, because neither have rape and incest exceptions. Ciscomani said in his interview with Prendergast that he will “support the law here in the state of Arizona.” As of August 24, polling shows Engel and Ciscomani are in a dead heat ([YS, 8/24](#)).

IT'S OFFICIAL

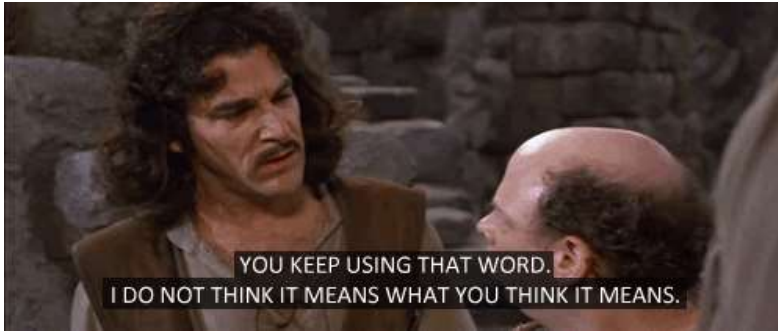
The Sec of State's Office officially declared that Save Our School's ESA expansion referendum does not have enough signatures to qualify for the ballot in 2024. "While the statutorily required review continues, our office has inspected enough petitions & signatures to confirm that the 118,823 signature minimum will not be met," Sec of State spokeswoman Sophia Solis said in an email. The announcement comes after Republicans earlier this week called on Hobbs to expedite the review to provide clarity by today ([LINK](#)). Today was the last day for

families to apply for ESAs and still receive quarter one funding on time, but the Arizona Dept of Education announced it is now proceeding with applications and contracts in light of the Sec of State's announcement and that it is extending the deadline to Oct. 15 because of the high volume of applications ([LINK](#)).



THERE'S ALWAYS A LOCAL ANGLE

Democratic LD21 House candidate Consuelo Hernandez is calling on Kelly to oppose President Joe Biden's pick to fill an open seat on the FCC. Sinema voted in favor of Sohn when the nomination passed through the Senate Commerce Committee earlier this year on a 14-14 vote, but Kelly hasn't publicly stated whether he would vote to confirm her. "He is still evaluating the nomination and hearing from Arizonans on it," a spokesman for Kelly's office told our reporter earlier this month. The League of Latin American Citizens wrote a letter to the Senate Commerce Committee last year opposing the nomination, alleging that Sohn has sided in the past with "large technology companies in ways that have hindered" Latino small businesses and content creators ([LINK](#)). Hernandez, sister of A Hernandez and former legislator Daniel Hernandez, echoed that concern and another made by LULAC about the unlikely support Sohn's nomination received from executives with far-right news networks *Newsmax* and *OANN* ([LINK](#)). "There's an opportunity here that's being missed where we can have very accomplished Latino, Hispanic folks in this space who don't have the baggage that Gigi Sohn does," she said. Hernandez also pointed to allegations made by a group founded by former North Dakota Democratic Senator Heidi Heitkamp that Sohn is not supportive of broadband in rural communities – a charge that Sohn's defenders say is misleading. Heitkamp's argument relies largely on a statement Sohn made to a House committee in 2020 that "policymakers have focused disproportionately on broadband deployment in rural areas of the United States." But *Los Angeles Times* columnist Michael Hiltzik wrote that quote is being taken out of context and Sohn wasn't arguing against expanding rural broadband but warning against ignoring access issues in poor urban communities ([LINK](#)). In addition to Hernandez and LULAC, the US Hispanic Chamber of Commerce also opposed the nomination. Sohn also has powerful supporters in her corner, including the union that represents hundreds of FCC employees ([LINK](#)).

YOU'VE GOT IT TWISTED, SISTER

Kari Lake apparently isn't taking it from Dee Snider, the Twisted Sister frontman who called her a "fascist moron" and told her to stop using the band's work. At a Lake event earlier this month in Chandler, a packed crowd clapped along to Twisted Sister's 1984 hit "We're Not Gonna Take It" before Lake and other GOP candidates took the

stage at American Way Smokehouse ([YS, 9/21](#)). "This is a pro-choice anthem you (are) co-opting. It was never intended for you fascist morons! As the songwriter & singer I denounce everything Kari Lake stands for!" Snider tweeted over the summer, after an account that boosts Lake tweeted out the lyrics to the song, implying the message aligned with Lake's campaign. But Snider went on to say he wouldn't legally challenge Lake's use of the song. Last Tuesday's playlist included other classic rock hits like "Sweet Child o' Mine" and the anti-war anthem "Fortunate Son." There's a rich history of (mostly) lefty rockers clashing with (mostly) conservative politicians who use their songs. Arizona's John McCain drew the ire of several bands when he used their songs on the presidential campaign trail in 2008 ([LINK](#)).

·WAKE UP CALL·**[Flat tax to take effect 1 year early](#)**

Arizona Capitol Times

Arizona will implement a flat 2.5% income tax starting next year – a year earlier than anticipated – Gov. Doug Ducey announced on Thursday.

[Dept. Of Child Safety under fire](#)

Arizona Capitol Times

Officials with the state ombudsman and Foster Care Review Board said today the Arizona Department of Child Safety is not providing information through their online database that other offices need, and when the agency does, it is filled with frequent errors and holes.

[Crowded write-in race in LD22 splits Dem party focus](#)

Arizona Capitol Times

A West Valley Senate race has gone from a sure win for an unopposed Democrat in the general election to a nine-person race of write-in candidates.

[Jan. 6 panel interviews Virginia Thomas after she contacted Arizona lawmakers regarding Trump](#)

Associated Press

Conservative activist Virginia "Ginni" Thomas, the wife of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, appeared on Thursday for a voluntary interview with the House panel investigating the Jan. 6 insurrection, after she texted with lawmakers in Arizona after the 2020 presidential election.

['Integrity bulletins' focus on police misconduct](#)

News21

Providing public information about police misconduct records can be a messy process but bulletins in Arizona and other states aim to keep residents informed of these issues.

[Combating hate and blame: LGBTQ activists fight stigma around monkeypox](#)

Cronkite News

LGBTQ activists in Arizona are stepping up efforts to fight stigma and intolerance amid the global outbreak of

monkeypox – even as they work to get more people vaccinated against the viral disease, which is contracted through close or intimate contact.

[Trial date set for former Warren Jeffs associate, indictment to remain sealed](#)

Today's News-Herald

The former member of a polygamist religious organization in Northern Mohave County remains in custody, a month after his arrest on charges of destroying evidence of a possible federal offense.

["There is nothing more important in the state than water"](#)

Yuma Sun

This story is part of a series covering Arizona Western College's Public Town Hall. Future stories will look at legislators' perspectives on key issues including healthcare and education.

[Arizona students walkout in protest of new anti-LGBTQ laws](#)

AZ Mirror

'School should be a safe place,' but students fear it isn't now that a series of laws went into effect last week

[Gerrymandering Isn't Giving Republicans the Advantage You Might Expect](#)

The New York Times

Yes, the G.O.P. has a structural edge in the House, but it isn't anything near insurmountable for Democrats.

[If you care about Arizona's dwindling water supply, don't overlook the CAWCD race](#)

Arizona Republic (Opinion, Editorial Board)

The Central Arizona Water Conservation District affects your life. Here's how to make sense of the 14 candidates running for five down-ballot seats.

[New Arizona law could hurt the evicted tenants it claims to help](#)

Arizona Republic (Opinion, Yuliya Panfil and Sabiha Zainulbhai)

A new Arizona law is intended to protect tenants who have been evicted. But it also could threaten their access to financial and legal help.

·PRESS RELEASES·

Sinema Details Importance of *Chips and Science Act* at ASU Panel on American Leadership, Innovation, and Manufacturing

Senator clinched bipartisan deal & broke partisan logjam, allowing legislation to advance into law

WASHINGTON – Arizona senior Senator Kyrsten Sinema spoke at an Arizona State University (ASU) panel, moderated by ASU President Michael Crow, about what her landmark *Chips and Science* law – legislation making an unprecedented investment in American semiconductor manufacturing – means for national security, research, innovation, workforce development, and Arizona's economic future.

Sinema was joined by Republican Senator John Cornyn (Texas) to detail how the historic package came together and earned broad bipartisan support in the U.S. Senate and discuss implementation of the transformative law.

“Our Chips and Science law represents a commonsense, bipartisan effort to strengthen our supply chains, address shipping delays, and grow domestic manufacturing by – in part – boosting our country's investment in semiconductor production. Increasing semiconductor production at home ensures our national security, reduces prices, and creates thousands of new, high-paying Arizona jobs,” said Sinema.

Approximately 90% of the world's chips manufacturing capacity is outside of the United States. Now that Sinema's *Chips and Science Act* is law, the federal government will partner with corporations and universities such as ASU, a nationally-recognized [leader in innovation](#), to help bridge that gap and restore America's global leadership in semiconductor manufacturing.

During the panel, Sinema discussed how partisan Washington political games jeopardized the size and scope of the *Chips and Science Act* and threatened Congress's ability to pass a robust piece of legislation tackling economic challenges now and shaping the economy into the future. Unwilling to let political games hinder bipartisan progress on a once-in-a-generation investment in American manufacturing, [Sinema](#)

[worked with Republican Senator Todd Young \(Ind.\)](#) to bring colleagues together and find common ground. Ultimately, the legislation garnered the bipartisan support of 64 senators.

The Sinema-shaped *Chips and Science* law provides more than \$52 billion to boost domestic semiconductor manufacturing amidst a global semiconductor shortage, reducing reliance on foreign countries like China and enhancing the United States' global competitiveness. The historic investment will [support tens of thousands of jobs in Arizona](#) alone.

The law also modernizes the federal government's approach to science, improves the National Science Foundation, grows the STEM workforce, and expands our country's global leadership in innovation, research, and development – keeping the United States ahead of China and other global competitors in technological advancement. The law also includes key provisions ensuring none of the historic investments in innovation, manufacturing, or development can go to China – keeping the law American-focused and boosting American jobs.

Sinema ensured the law reauthorizes the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), incorporating provisions she drafted as a leader on the Space subcommittee – directing NASA to fund key science research at Arizona universities, maintaining the International Space Station, and sending the first woman to the moon.

Throughout negotiations that ultimately led to the success of the legislation, [Sinema consistently heard from Arizona manufacturers](#) about how the plan will relieve ongoing supply chain challenges, get goods to store shelves faster, and expand economic opportunities in Arizona and across the country.

###

Congressman Biggs Launches Most Comprehensive Congressional Border Documentary to Date

Yesterday, Congressman Andy Biggs (R-AZ) premiered a new border documentary titled *Alien Invasion* at The Heritage Foundation. The documentary addresses how President Biden's border crisis began, its consequences, and solutions to address the crisis. The documentary includes interviews with Members of Congress, former Trump Administration officials, law enforcement, and citizens living along the U.S.-Mexico border. It also features never-before-seen footage from cartel-infiltrated areas in Yuma, Arizona, and Panama's Darien Gap—a region where many migrants begin their journey to the U.S.-Mexico border.

“How anyone can turn a blind eye to the current state of the southern border is absurd,” said Congressman Andy Biggs. “Over the past year, I have traveled to the U.S.-Mexico border numerous times and interviewed dozens of experts so that I could create a comprehensive documentary highlighting the severity of the Biden Border Crisis.

“This film shows realities—not partisanship—and hopefully presents new perspectives to my open borders colleagues. If you have questions on how we got to the border's breaking point, what immediate solutions there are to help us resecure the border, or are wanting to learn more about the state of our border, this is the documentary for you.”

The documentary may be watched [here](#).

The Washington Times reviewed the documentary [here](#).

###

Sinema-Backed Bipartisan Resolution Celebrates National Clean Energy Week

Bipartisan Senate resolution designates week of September 26 as “National Clean Energy Week”

WASHINGTON – Arizona senior Senator Kyrsten Sinema cosponsored a bipartisan Senate resolution celebrating the nation's advancements in clean energy technology by designating the week of September 26 as “National Clean Energy Week.”

The resolution builds on recent, historic investments – such as Sinema's bipartisan *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs* law and the Sinema-shaped *Inflation Reduction* law – which will power Arizona's clean energy future.

“We’re celebrating investments in green technology, electric vehicles, and emissions reduction secured in our *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs* law and the *Inflation Reduction* law, which will further strengthen Arizona’s leadership in clean energy,” said Sinema, co-author and lead negotiator of the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs* law.

Sinema’s *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs* law makes one of the [largest investments in clean energy transmission and electric vehicle infrastructure](#) in U.S. history, electrifying thousands of school and transit buses across the country, bolstering critical materials supply chains, improving energy efficiency, and building out a national network of electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

Additionally, Sinema’s bipartisan infrastructure law provides \$65 billion to [strengthen electricity grids](#) around the country and promote resilience of power infrastructure – including creating a new Grid Development Authority to build a clean energy 21st century electric grid, and substantial investments in clean energy sources like hydrogen, nuclear, and carbon capture, utilization, and storage.

The *Inflation Reduction* law allocates \$370 billion to incentivize the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by investing in clean and renewable energy production, as well as billions in energy efficiency, clean manufacturing, and renewable energy generation, storage, and transmission.

Sinema’s bipartisan resolution underscores the benefits of clean energy to the environment and American energy users, and celebrates the more than [7.8 million](#) Americans employed by the energy and energy efficiency sectors.

###

The Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (AZHCC) hosts their 26th Annual DATOS: The State of Arizona's Hispanic Market event and research publication.

High-resolution file photos from the 2022 DATOS conference will be available upon request.

Economic Opportunity will be the focus of the annual Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce’s (AZHCC) DATOS release and event. Every year, demographic, sociographic, and psychographic data is collected on the impact of Hispanics in Arizona.

PHOENIX – This year, in addition to sharing data on the Hispanic population and business as we do every year, DATOS will highlight **Economic Opportunity**. Moreover, the AZHCC will be facilitating a live conversation with their two **keynote speakers**: Ron Insana, Senior Analyst, CNBC and David E. Hayes-Bautista, PH.D., Professor of Medicine and the Director of the Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture at the David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles. Both will share information on Latino GDP and Hispanic impact on the overall economy.

Among the findings in this year’s report:

- Phoenix has the 6th largest Hispanic population in the U.S. – at 643,000.
- The Latino employment and work force participation (Latino civilian workers) in the U.S. increased from 23.8 million in 2010 to 29.8 million in 2019.
- Thirty-six percent of non-Hispanic, white people reported facing a “large negative effect” from the pandemic compared to 16% of Latinos in 2021.

These findings and more will be published in the *2022 DATOS: The State of Arizona’s Hispanic Market* report and will be shared as part of the Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce’s event on Monday, October 3, 2022. The event will be at the Sheraton in Downtown Phoenix from 6:30 AM – 9:00 AM. In addition, DATOS will launch the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC) National Conference – Opening Breakfast Session. The USHCC Conference will be held in Phoenix from October 2-4, 2022 at the Sheraton as well.

For over 25 years, the AZHCC has published DATOS: The State of Arizona’s Hispanic Market, the most comprehensive compilation of research on the impact of Hispanic on the Arizona marketplace. The report is unveiled at the annual DATOS breakfast, which usually draws nearly 1,000 of the state’s most influential

business and community leaders. The list of prestigious past speakers at DATOS includes Dr. Michael Crow of ASU, Monica Gil of the Nielsen Company, and Chiqui Cartagena, author of *Latino Boom, I & II*. The Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce partnered with Vitalyst Health Foundation to provide a new lens for DATOS. This dynamic framework explores data on Arizona Hispanics with relation to the social determinants of a healthy community including, but not limited to, education, economic opportunity, and health care. There are 12 such elements and every year DATOS will select one for a deep dive perspective. To register for this event [click here](#) or contact Adriana Acedo-Campillo at adrianaa@azhcc.com or [602.279.1800](tel:602.279.1800).

###

End Citizens United // Let America Vote Releases Arizona's 2022 Democracy Scorecard

Arizona received a "D" based on voting rights, anti-corruption efforts, and democracy subversion

Washington, D.C. – End Citizens United // Let America Vote Action Fund, a leading anti-corruption and voting rights group with over 4 million members nationwide, released the first-ever State Democracy Scorecard to provide an overall assessment of the health of democracy in all 50 states and spotlight warning signs, areas for advancement, and key democracy defenders ahead of the 2022 midterm elections.

The scorecards for all 50 states are available online [here](#).

“This new scorecard demonstrates that our democracy is not equal. In reality, your power at the ballot box and your say in your government depends on the state in which you live,” said **Tiffany Muller, president of ECU // LAV Action Fund**. “While lawmakers in several states work to establish roadblocks to voting, others have expanded voting options. Some states are taking action to protect their elections against attempts to undermine or overturn results – others aren’t doing nearly enough to protect the will of the voters. Our hope is the 2022 State Democracy Scorecard informs voters about the potential consequences of the upcoming midterm election and motivates them to call on their candidates and elected officials to strengthen democracy for everyone.”

While other organizations and analyses have created scorecards that looked at voting and anti-corruption issues as discrete policy areas, **this is the first to combine them into an overall grade**. The 2022 Scorecard examined three areas of good governance in developing the scores: a state-by-state assessment of voting laws and access to the ballot box, campaign finance and anti-corruption laws, and protections against democracy subversion practices like partisan gerrymandering.

Key Findings

- 1. There is a stark divergence between states improving access to voting and those restricting access to the ballot, leading us toward a two-tier democracy in which where you live determines the strength of your power in our democracy.**
 - While most of the public reporting has focused on the states putting up barriers to the ballot, it’s important to highlight others that have expanded voting options since the 2020 election.
- 2. Very few states have taken action to address the corrupting influence of dark money, which has grown dramatically in the 12 years since the Citizens United decision.**
 - This is a bipartisan problem that continues to get worse each cycle, leaving Americans unaware of the wealthy donors and special interests trying to influence their vote. Even many states that have increased access to voting have not adequately strengthened campaign finance and ethics laws, leaving voters in the dark about the biggest donors trying to influence their vote.
- 3. Some states are taking action to protect against election sabotage—attempts to undermine or overturn elections—but overall, they are not doing enough to protect against some of the worst threats.**

- The outcome of the 2022 election could make things significantly worse, as many statewide candidates have denied the accuracy of the 2020 election and pledged to overturn future elections if their preferred candidate loses.

###

Republican Juan Ciscomani Ducks Only Televised Debate in AZ-06 Race

Arizona Public Media debate was scheduled to take place next week

Tucson, AZ — Republican candidate Juan Ciscomani has dodged the only televised debate in the race for Arizona's 6th Congressional District, forcing the organization to cancel it a week before it was scheduled to take place. Democratic congressional candidate for Arizona's 6th District Kirsten Engel released the following statement:

“As a longtime Arizonan and Tucson resident, I know that Arizona Public Media's debates are a fixture of each election year in this district. By dodging this debate, Juan Ciscomani is depriving voters of the opportunity to hear where he stands on crucial issues. My question for Ciscomani is simple — what are you afraid of?”

“Just like Blake Masters and Kari Lake, Ciscomani proudly supports extreme abortion bans like the near-total 1901 ban that just went into effect in our state, which has no exceptions for rape or incest. Extreme, dangerous Republicans like Ciscomani are completely out of step with the needs and values of Arizonans. Is Ciscomani hiding from the voters to avoid answering for his radical and unpopular views?”

The general election debate for Arizona's 6th Congressional District was scheduled for next week, hosted by Arizona Public Media (AZPM). This isn't the first time Ciscomani has refused to appear in televised debates with his political opponents. During his primary, [Arizona PBS held a debate for all the Republican candidates](#) — and Ciscomani was a no show. Kirsten Engel was proud to participate in [Arizona PBS' debate during the Democratic primary](#). Ciscomani also refused to join Engel for a general election forum hosted by Arizona PBS and [Engel instead participated in an individual interview](#).

Ciscomani [cheered](#) the overturning of Roe v. Wade, which gave women the fundamental right to choose. Recently, [in an Arizona Daily Star interview](#), Ciscomani voiced his support for a ban on abortion in Arizona without exceptions for rape or incest. Earlier this week, [Ciscomani was seen running away](#) from Arizona voters to avoid defending his radical stance on abortion.

###

MASTERS MOMENT: The One Where He Says Progressives Are The Enemy of “Everything That Is Good”

PHOENIX — Welcome to today's ‘Masters Moment’ — a daily opportunity to shine light on Blake Masters' out-of-touch, offensive, and disqualifying beliefs and opinions.

Over the next 39 days, the ‘Masters Moment’ will be your number one source for all things Masters. While he attempts a desperate pivot to hide his “[fringe](#),” “[extreme](#),” and “[dangerous](#)” ideas, every day we'll be releasing the audio and video to prove, in his own words, who Masters really is – and that he's a risk Arizonans can't afford.

Today's moment, where Masters blames progressives for literally everything:

[Masters](#): "The progressive left just remains the enemy. It's the enemy of true progress, it's the enemy of everything that is good," (On the Subversive Podcast with Alex Kaschuta, 3/14/22).

###

Arizona Economist Says Katie Hobbs' Plan Could Help Cut Inflation While Kari Lake's Plan “Just Doesn't Work”

PHOENIX– An [economist who advised governors on both sides of the aisle for 40 years](#) was interviewed on Katie Hobbs' and Kari Lake's plans to bolster Arizona's economy. His conclusion? Kari Lake's plan

“just doesn’t work” and actually could make inflation worse in Arizona. Phoenix, Arizona is the [worst in the nation](#) for inflation.

Meanwhile, [Katie Hobbs' detailed plan](#) would relieve the burden on families by providing a child care tax credit of \$250 per child every month, along with eliminating sales tax on exempt diapers and baby formula, and implement a sales tax holiday on school supplies. Hoffman praises the [Hobbs plan](#) saying it “can help combat inflation,” and that it would “benefit lower-income people in a state where upper-income earners have benefitted the most from tax cuts.”

“Hoffman said it all about Kari Lake’s lackluster and barely-there plan for the economy— It “just doesn’t work” and will only leave more Arizonans behind. Katie Hobbs knows firsthand what it’s like to support a family and has [shared her own story](#) of losing her home to foreclosure during the financial crisis and driving for Uber to keep her family afloat. Meanwhile, Kari Lake is out of touch, bragging about her former TV anchor salary, living in the Biltmore neighborhood and owning three homes. Lake has no idea of the challenges everyday Arizonans are facing today with skyrocketing housing costs and inflation and she has no plan to help them either.”

###

WHAT THEY’RE READING: “Blake Masters Tells Female Police Officer Gender Pay Gap is ‘a Myth’”

PHOENIX — Over the weekend, Blake Masters [doubled down](#) on his [previous statements](#) saying the gender pay gap “doesn’t exist,” patronizing a Tucson-area female police officer and telling her that it is just a “myth.”

Despite plenty of [evidence](#) to the contrary, this isn’t the first time Masters has [made headlines](#) for broadcasting his hot (read: incorrect) take that the gender pay gap is a “fake left-wing narrative.” Earlier this year, Masters argued that women are paid less than men simply because they’re not the ones who do the “risky” and “most dangerous jobs.” He even used crab fishing and law enforcement — like the female police officer he patronized in Tucson — as examples of professions that, according to Masters, women simply do not take on.

See below for a roundup of coverage highlighting Masters’ out-of-touch beliefs:

- **Washington Post:** [Blake Masters tells female police officer gender pay gap is ‘a myth’](#)
 - *Republican senate candidate Blake Masters of Arizona is doubling down on his skepticism that women are paid less than men for comparable work, saying on a conservative radio show this past weekend that “the gender pay gap is a myth.”*
 - *The comment comes months after Masters dismissed the idea of a gender pay gap as “a left-wing narrative” which is better explained by the fact that, according to Masters, “men do the most dangerous jobs.”*
 - *Masters most recent comments came over the weekend when a caller to the conservative radio show he was on asked him if he had in fact said women do no dangerous work. The caller identified herself as a female police officer in Tucson and a lifelong Republican who is undecided about supporting Masters in his race to oust Sen. Mark Kelly (D).*
 - *Data from the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics show the median weekly earning of full-time female police officers in 2021 is lower than their male counterparts...*
- **Jezebel:** [Blake Masters Told a Female Cop the Gender Pay Gap Is a Myth](#)
 - *Masters appeared on the radio show KVOI Inside Track when a woman named Laurie called in and identified herself as a lifelong Republican who is “very much torn” over whether she’s going to vote for Masters or stay home, partly because of Masters’ statements about women not having “dangerous” jobs.*
 - *Laurie said she’s a Tucson police officer who wears a bulletproof vest every day while driving in a marked police vehicle and wanted to know if he still stood by that statement.*
 - *Masters made his original comments in February while arguing against the need for the Equal Rights Amendment, which would ban discrimination on the basis of sex. “We got to*

push back on the fake left-wing narrative that women don't have equal rights in this country," he said.

###

One Week Since 1901 Abortion Ban Went Into Effect, Kari Lake “Never Will” Denounce Her Extreme Stances

PHOENIX— A [pre-statehood law banning abortions](#) and criminalizing doctors is again law in Arizona after a Pima County judge lifted the injunction and made clear that the 1901 abortion ban was now in effect. Democratic nominee for governor Katie Hobbs [held a press conference](#) the very next morning [speaking out](#) against the ruling. That Sunday Kari Lake went on Fox News with Maria Bartiromo where she [doubled down](#) on her support for the abortion ban, saying “I’m pro-life. I’ve never backed away from that and never will.”

But, per usual, she seemed less talkative when local press [pushed her on the issue](#). Talking to AZ Family, Lake tried to feign confusion over which Arizona abortion ban was in effect. But luckily for her, we’re here to remind her of her consistent support for the extreme 1901 ban on abortion that bans nearly all abortions and would criminalize doctors and nurses.

Lake has never backed away from her out of touch stance. As the [Arizona Republic reported](#), “[Lake has not budged from her staunch opposition to abortion](#),” despite a majority of Arizonans [supporting](#) access to abortion and it becoming a [top issue](#) in this election. Lake responded to the SCOTUS decision overturning Roe by saying she [supports the 1901 Arizona law](#) and celebrated the 1901 ban as a “[great law](#)” during a forum in February and said she would [support and enforce](#) it during the [Republican primary debate](#). Lake even knew the 1901 abortion ban well enough to memorize the statute number. In a June 24th [interview with the Conservative Circus](#), Lake said, “I’m incredibly thrilled that we are going to have a great law that’s already on the books, I believe it’s ARS 13-3603.”

Lake has referred to people who seek abortion care as “[executioners](#)” and has repeatedly called abortion “murder,” framing women who seek abortion care as murderers, saying, “[I believe that taking the life of an unborn child is murder](#).” She’s said “I am pro-life 100%. I’m against abortion,” opposing exceptions for rape and incest or the life of the woman. When asked if [she supported exceptions for rape and incest](#), Lake said, “I don’t believe that any child should be killed in a mother’s womb” and that “abortion is the ultimate sin.” In a June interview on Fox News and in the GOP primary debate, Lake also said [she supports outlawing abortion pills](#).

“When Kari Lake tells us who she is we should believe her, even when her position is out of touch with 90 percent of Arizonans. She has never wavered in her support for this 1901 law banning abortion and criminalizing medical professionals,” said Josselyn Berry, spokesperson for the Arizona Democratic Party. “Lake has proudly branded herself as the anti-choice candidate in her campaign for governor, and has not backed down from her extreme positions. If Kari Lake becomes governor, she will absolutely support and enforce this extreme ban, endangering the lives of Arizonans and threatening doctors and nurses with jail time. Meanwhile, her opponent Katie Hobbs has been and always will be a staunch supporter of reproductive freedom.”

“QUOTE
OF THE DAY”

“This is a pro-choice anthem you (are) co-opting. It was never intended for you fascist morons!”

- *Twisted Sister front man Dee Snider after an account that boosts Kari Lake tweeted out the lyrics to “We’re Not Gonna Take It”*