
Sample letters
American Rescue Plan

Governor: ARPA funding

Dear Governor Ducey,

Arizona's budget must reflect the needs of Arizonans.

Last year, we were shocked when you used CARES Act funding to backfill state agency budgets and pad the state's rainy day fund. You could have increased unemployment benefits or tackled food insecurity and the looming eviction crisis. You could have bolstered small businesses and protected the marginalized communities most vulnerable to the devastations of this pandemic. Instead, you used the temporary aid Arizonans received in stimulus payments from the federal government to conjure a false budgetary surplus and justify proposing permanent tax cuts that will only marginally benefit those most in need.

This must not happen with the American Rescue Plan Act funding. Instead, this aid must be used to get Arizonans back on their feet: to assist the millions of us who have lost income, who face mounting medical and housing debts, who are struggling to balance work or job-searching with family duties. More than one-third of our households have struggled to keep up with regular expenses since the beginning of this crisis. You can change that by setting a responsible budget that funds education, child care, job training, and affordable healthcare and housing.

Taking care of Arizonans is sound economic policy. We look forward to hearing how you'll do this with the impending federal relief funding.

Respectfully,
Voter

Legislators: Public Education Prop 208 & SB 1783

Dear Senator Gowan, Representative Cobb, Senator Fann, Representative Bowers, Representative Friese and Senator Alston,

Arizona's budget must reflect the needs of Arizonans of all ages.

Last year, Arizonans voted to save our schools by approving Proposition 208, a modest surcharge on the income of the state's highest earners. We were shocked at last month's introduction of SB1783, which would allow wealthy individuals to cheat Arizona's students and teachers by misrepresenting their earnings. Arizona's K-12 funding has lagged shamefully behind the national average for decades. With the twin health and economic crises of the past year, our educational institutions need assistance more than ever.

You can change this by voting against SB1783 and instead including Invest in Education Act funds in this year's state budget. This funding can address our long-term teacher shortage and ensure that our educators receive well-deserved pay increases. With it schools can hire the counselors and aides vital in helping our students recover from this unimaginable year. It can expand career and vocational education, offering the youth of Arizona multiple paths to success. You can make this happen.

Investing in education is investing in our shared future. We look forward to hearing how you'll do this in the coming year's budget.

Respectfully,
Voter